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Part V
Regional cooperation for development

Section 22
Economic and social development in Western Asia

(Programme 19 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015)**

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* A summary of the approved programme budget will be issued as A/68/6/Add.1.

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Overview

Table 22.1 **Financial resources**

(United States dollars)

Approved resources for 2012-2013[a]	69 177 900
Technical adjustments (delayed impact and removal of non-recurrent requirements)	244 600
New mandates and inter-component changes	698 000
Changes in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248	(1 557 000)
Changes reflected in the Secretary-General's report on the budget outline for 2014-2015[b]	(748 .00)
Total resource change	(1 363 000)
Proposal of the Secretary-General for 2014-2015[a]	67 814 900

[a] At 2012-2013 revised rates.
[b] A/67/529 and Corr.1.

Table 22.2 **Post resources**

	Number	*Level*
Regular budget		
Approved posts for the biennium 2012-2013	264	1 USG, 1 D-2, 9 D-1, 25 P-5, 35 P-4, 29 P-3, 18 P-2, 1 FS, 2 NPO, 143 LL
Reclassifications	2	1 D-1 to 1 D-2 and 1 LL to 1 NPO under Programme support
Conversions	1	1 P-4 from General temporary assistance to post under Programme support
Abolishments	(14)	1 P-3 under Subprogramme 1
		1 P-2 under Subprogramme 2
		1 LL under Executive direction and management
		1 LL under Subprogramme 3
		1 LL under Subprogramme 4
		1 LL under Subprogramme 5
		1 LL under Subprogramme 6
		1 LL under Subprogramme 7
		6 LL under Programme support
Proposed for the biennium 2014-2015	251	1 USG, 2 D-2, 8 D-1, 25 P-5, 36 P-4, 28 P-3, 17 P-2, 1 FS, 3 NPO, 130 LL

Overall orientation

22.1 The overall orientation of the programme is to foster comprehensive, equitable, integrated and sustainable development through effective economic and social cooperation in the region, and to maintain and strengthen economic relations between the member countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and with other countries, paying special

Note: The following abbreviations are used in tables and charts: FS, Field Service; LL, Local level; NPO, National Professional Officer; RB, regular budget; USG, Under-Secretary-General.

consideration to least developed and conflict-stricken countries. ESCWA is responsible for the implementation of the programme.

22.2 Policy direction for the programme is provided in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1818 (LV) and 1985/69, establishing ESCWA and amending its terms of reference in order to underscore the social functions of the Commission. Further direction is provided in Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/50, in which ESCWA was requested to provide support to member countries in realizing the Millennium Development Goals, including by building capacities to formulate policies, monitor the progress made, measure its impact and prepare regional reports. In addition, in its resolution 269 (XXIV), the Commission requested its Executive Secretary to increase coherence and synergy with other regional United Nations organizations and, through the Commission's leading role in the Regional Coordination Group, foster partnerships and cooperation with those organizations.

22.3 As a regional arm of the United Nations, ESCWA will continue to foster economic integration at the subregional and regional levels, to promote the regional implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to support regional sustainable development by contributing to bridging economic, social and environmental policy gaps in its member countries. To achieve those objectives, ESCWA, through its convening power, will continue to advance multilateral dialogue, knowledge-sharing and networking at the regional level, and will work with the other regional commissions to promote intraregional and interregional cooperation, both between themselves and through collaboration with other subregional and regional organizations.

22.4 Since late 2010, the political landscape of the ESCWA region has experienced dramatic transformations. The Commission will play a crucial and unique role in facilitating Governments' responses to meet the needs of their citizens by assisting member countries in addressing current policy weaknesses and enhancing their capacities effectively to address inequalities, and by using its convening power to provide a forum for member countries to discuss and share views on overall economic, social and sustainable development issues in the region.

22.5 It should be noted that the biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015 takes into consideration the impending deadline for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, and therefore efforts to support member countries to fast-track their commitments, in particular in line with the Global Action Plan adopted at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, are emphasized throughout.

22.6 In the light of the challenges highlighted above and to capitalize on the opportunities presented by the movement towards a more expansive social and political horizon and exploit its capacity to the fullest, ESCWA engaged in an extensive process of consultation within and outside the Commission in relation to the biennial programme plan to ensure that the needs of both member countries and the citizens of the region were captured.

22.7 The purpose of the exercise is to establish a medium-term plan (lasting between two and four years) up to the target date for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; to provide a framework for integrating the work of the Commission more effectively around three institutionally defined strategic pillars; to streamline planning processes and ensure greater coherence between the objectives and strategies on the one hand, and the activities, outputs and performance measures on the other; and to show how work under each subprogramme will affect the region's economic and social development challenges. That will increase the impact of ESCWA activities and facilitate evaluation and review with a view to measuring impact at the institutional level.

22.8 ESCWA will focus its work on inclusive and sustainable development in the region. The programme comprises seven interdependent subprogrammes that focus on three strategic pillars. Those pillars serve as mainstays for work to be implemented in 12 priority areas, and are underpinned by three cross-cutting issues. Specifically, ESCWA is expanding its integrated planning approach so that several or all of its subprogrammes play a joint role in contributing to the impacts that it is to achieve, meaning that there will be no strategic pillars that are solely the purview of any single subprogramme. The biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015 thus not only reflects the activities of individual work units but also deals with those of ESCWA as a fully integrated body.

22.9 The three strategic pillars of ESCWA are: equitable growth and sustainability; regional integration; and good governance and resilience. Using those pillars, ESCWA is building fully integrated workplans within those priority areas in which more than one subprogramme is focused. Throughout its work, ESCWA will achieve more than simply implementing the programmed outputs. It will target predetermined and measurable outcomes under each priority area, paying particular attention to changes in practice by member countries in line with the objectives set under each subprogramme. To this end, ESCWA will shift the focus of its monitoring and implementation efforts from the individual outputs or workplans of each subprogramme to their overall contribution to the outcomes established for each priority area and strategic pillar.

22.10 Through its work on equitable growth and sustainability, ESCWA will increase member countries' capacity to formulate and/or implement policies that promote equitable, resilient and sustainable development as a critical tool for broadening opportunities for human development through equitable and sustainable growth. It will focus on three priority areas: equity, inclusion and employment; competitive knowledge-based economies; and sustainable natural resource management.

22.11 In its work on equity, inclusion and employment, ESCWA will focus on strengthening its member countries' capacity to develop and increase inclusive and equitable socioeconomic conditions through integrated workplans under subprogrammes 1 to 3 on the development of rights-based social policies that promote social integration, social protection, the provision of adequate social services and employment generation; pro-poor growth policies focused on employment generation and inclusive and equitable financial policies; and increasing the productivity of small and medium-sized enterprises for employment creation and economic diversification.

22.12 In the area of competitive knowledge-based economies, ESCWA will build integrated workplans under subprogrammes 3 and 4, focusing on enhancing member countries' capacity to develop and make fully operational knowledge-based economies for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation through effective macroeconomic management, in addition to promoting economic diversification and competitiveness for decent job creation. In terms of sustainable natural resource management, ESCWA, under subprogramme 1, will enhance member countries' capacity to develop and implement national, subregional and regional policies, strategies and action plans for the sustainable management of water, energy and land in line with agreements reached at major United Nations conferences on sustainable development and provisions of relevant multilateral environmental agreements.

22.13 Under the regional integration strategic pillar, ESCWA will enhance regional prosperity through strengthened regional cooperation, focusing on five priority areas: knowledge and technology management; sustainable infrastructure; socioeconomic policy coordination; food, water and energy security; and gender-sensitive policies and integration.

22.14 In terms of knowledge and technology management, ESCWA, under subprogramme 4, will expand the realization of an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society in the

region. Where sustainable infrastructure is concerned, ESCWA, under subprogramme 3, will enhance regional integration of member countries by developing and harmonizing physical and legislative infrastructure in the region, including frameworks associated with the Integrated Transport System in the Arab Mashreq. As to social and economic policy coordination, the Commission will promote regionally coordinated social and economic policies, and ensure the implementation of regional economic agreements to realize the potential for intraregional integration and build a harmonized policy framework for the legislation required to govern e-commerce, e-service, e-trade and e-business between Arab countries. This effort will require integrated work under subprogrammes 3 and 4, including the full contribution of the ESCWA Technology Centre. Under subprogramme 1, ESCWA will work to enhance the food, water and energy security of the Arab region for its sustained long-term development and to preserve achievements in poverty alleviation and human development by promoting regional cooperation on shared water resources, energy networks and land management. Through subprogramme 6, it will also promote regional integration by supporting the adoption of gender-sensitive policies and legislation in order to attain equal rights of women in line with international conventions, conferences and internationally agreed development goals.

22.15 Under the good governance and resilience strategic pillar, ESCWA will strengthen member countries' capacity to build engagement between Governments and their citizens, to identify and respond to potential conflict and other vulnerabilities, and to formulate resilience measures to mitigate the negative impacts of such conflicts and other vulnerabilities. To accomplish those objectives, ESCWA will focus on four priority areas: participation and citizenship; social and economic impacts of conflict and occupation; institutional development; and resilience to natural and human-made crises.

22.16 Through its work on participation and citizenship, ESCWA will encourage the adoption and implementation of participatory and inclusive governance and national development policies based on the equal participation of men and women, with a particular focus on enhancing the position of women in democratic decision-making processes, in addition to ensuring the participation of civil society and other stakeholders in public policy formulation, implementation and monitoring. This priority area will require integrated workplans under subprogrammes 2, 6 and 7.

22.17 Under the priority area on social and economic impacts of conflict and occupation, ESCWA, under subprogramme 7, will support member countries in mitigating the negative impact of occupation, the ramifications of conflict and their spillover effects on human development in the region, particularly on Arab least developed countries. Under the priority area on institutional development, through integrated work under subprogrammes 3, 6 and 7, ESCWA will support public institutions to create an enabling environment for development, pre-empting conflicts and achieving reconciliation and peace through nationally led and owned good governance practices for the implementation of enhanced macroeconomic management; promoting efficient, transparent and accountable civil service, including effective public service delivery, as tools to pre-empt conflicts and achieve reconciliation and peace; and using institutional development and good governance structures to promote the adoption of legislation and national action plans to combat gender-based violence.

22.18 Through its work on resilience to natural and human-made crises, ESCWA, through subprogramme 1, will support member countries in building their capacity to absorb and respond to the impact of crises through the development of sound policies, including the creation of subregional and regional mechanisms to ensure a coordinated response to climate change and natural crises.

22.19 The ESCWA programme of work will be guided by three cross-cutting issues — partnerships, knowledge management and gender — on which the workplan of subprogramme 5 (Statistics for evidence-based policymaking) is focused.

22.20 Taking into account the new strategic pillars and the relatively limited human and financial resources, it becomes vital to develop holistic strategic partnerships with other regional stakeholders, which in turn should contribute to the fulfilment of the objectives of ESCWA.

22.21 ESCWA is reviewing each priority area to identify the relevant actors from United Nations bodies, civil society organizations and the private sector, among others, with which it would be strategically opportune to forge relationships in order to maximize success in implementing the workplans. Identification of the activities and the implementing partners will provide a framework for comprehensive memorandums of understanding to take advantage of the opportunities and benefits that those arrangements will bring for ESCWA and the region as a whole. Principally, ESCWA will complete a five-year comprehensive agreement with the League of Arab States that will cement the relationship between the two organizations and ensure that the synergies and complementarities between them are fully exploited.

22.22 ESCWA will focus in particular on promoting South-South cooperation between its member countries and with other developing countries through the regional commissions as a catalyst for improving capacity-development efforts and to identify opportunities for intraregional activities.

22.23 The nature of ESCWA work demands that it become a leading knowledge-based institution, meaning that knowledge-sharing requires greater attention throughout its work. That applies to the internal processes of the ESCWA secretariat, the Commission's relationship to member countries and partners and the work of subsidiary intergovernmental, technical and expert bodies.

22.24 The convening power of ESCWA has significant potential to disseminate knowledge that has yet to be fully tapped. A core role of intergovernmental processes is to facilitate exchange of experience between experts from countries in the region and accelerate the development of technical skills, decision-making, governance, management and implementation of new policy options through peer-to-peer learning. In particular, ESCWA will focus on follow-up to technical and expert meetings, workshops and seminars, maintaining and moderating networks of experts and stimulating a productive exchange of information.

22.25 Through subprogramme 5, on statistics for evidence-based analysis and decision-making, ESCWA has taken the lead in coordinating statistical information in the region. Work under this subprogramme will improve the provision of statistical data about member countries through collection and dissemination of official statistics and indicators to support informed policymaking; enhance national capacity in line with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics to produce relevant, timely, reliable and comparable official statistics; and strengthen a regional statistical system in support of regional integration.

22.26 ESCWA will use its leadership of the Task Force on Statistical Coordination of the Regional Coordination Mechanism to promote coordination of statistics between national and international organizations active in the region. It has also put in place an internal coordination mechanism for statistical activities.

22.27 Gender is a cross-cutting issue deeply influencing all ESCWA work. Men and women have different needs and priorities in the development process, just as the way in which they gain access to and control resources differs. Accordingly, each ESCWA intervention must have a gender perspective.

22.28 ESCWA work in gender mainstreaming has two components. The first is to assist member countries to promote gender equality and the advancement of women, and the second to integrate a gender perspective into the ESCWA programme of work. ESCWA will continue to lead United Nations entities in the implementation of the action plan for the implementation of the United Nations system-wide policy on gender equality and the empowerment of women endorsed by the

United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination in October 2006 (CEB/2006/2 and Corr.1, annex).

22.29 ESCWA will continue to carry out analytical and normative work and also provide technical cooperation support in line with its member countries' needs. It will facilitate exchange of knowledge and information by providing a forum for networking and multilateral dialogue on regional and global development issues, while giving due consideration to the advancement of South-South cooperation. Special attention will be paid to the promotion of gender mainstreaming in ESCWA in the light of the programme of work of the Organization, in accordance with the global priorities of the United Nations. Similarly, lessons learned from evaluation exercises will be consolidated to improve the design and performance of programmes, in view of the United Nations commitment to encouraging and supporting evaluation practices to enhance learning and accountability.

22.30 It is anticipated that the consultations that have taken place between the thematic clusters of the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs will contribute to enhanced coordination and collaboration in major common work areas of the Secretariat dealing with economic and social development. Moreover, through its leadership of the Regional Coordination Mechanism, ESCWA will facilitate consultation processes among the United Nations entities concerned, leading to the identification of priority areas where collective support for development interventions could be provided, whether at the level of the ESCWA region or in the broader context of the Arab region.

22.31 The Economic and Social Council endorsed the requests of Libya, the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of Tunisia to become full members in the Commission in its substantive session in 2012. The admittance of those three new member States to ESCWA is an important step in the process of providing a coherent platform for ESCWA activities at the regional level. It offers the Commission the opportunity to engage with the new member States to support not only their economic and social development, but the wider region as a whole through the promotion of regional integration, norms and standards. That will further ensure that ESCWA activities are streamlined with international and regional institutions that are operating in the Arab region. Based on the interest generated by the work of ESCWA, it is expected that other countries in the Arab region will be submitting requests to join ESCWA in the coming years.

Overview of resources

22.32 The overall resources proposed for the biennium 2014-2015 for this section amount to $67,814,900 before recosting, reflecting a net decrease of $1,363,000 (or 2.0 per cent) compared with the 2012-2013 budget at revised rates. Resource changes result from four factors, namely, (a) technical adjustments relating to the removal of non-recurrent requirements and addition of delayed impact for three new posts (2 D-1 and 1 P-5) approved in 2012-2013; (b) new or expanded mandates and inter-component changes; (c) resource changes in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248; and (d) resource changes reflected in the report of the Secretary-General on the budget outline for 2014-2015 (A/67/529 and Corr.1).

22.33 The distribution of resources is reflected in tables 22.3 to 22.5 below.

Table 22.3 **Financial resources by component**

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

	2010-2011 expenditure	2012-2013 resources at revised rates	Resource change: Technical adjustment (delayed impact and non-recurrent)	Resource change: New mandates and inter-component changes	Resource change: In line with resolution 67/248	Resource change: Reflected in budget outline report[a]	Resource change: Total	Resource change: Percentage	Total before recosting	Recosting	2014-2015 estimate
A. Policymaking organs	115.9	160.6	–	–	(14.0)	–	(14.0)	(8.7)	146.6	9.4	156.0
B. Executive direction and management	3 427.1	4 397.3	–	(0.3)	(140.6)	–	(140.9)	(3.2)	4 256.4	120.4	4 376.8
C. Programme of work											
1. Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development	6 526.8	6 718.5	(351.5)	696.4	(290.0)	–	54.9	0.8	6 773.4	166.7	6 940.1
2. Social development	5 149.8	5 956.7	–	(6.1)	(227.2)	–	(233.3)	(3.9)	5 723.4	104.9	5 828.3
3. Economic development and integration	6 352.4	7 995.3	–	(1.8)	(302.6)	–	(304.4)	(3.8)	7 690.9	149.1	7 840.0
4. Information and communications technology for regional integration	4 460.0	4 657.2	–	(9.5)	(178.8)	–	(188.3)	(4.0)	4 468.9	78.7	4 547.6
5. Statistics for evidence-based policymaking	4 379.7	4 144.2	–	–	(159.3)	–	(159.3)	(3.8)	3 984.9	73.1	4 058.0
6. Advancement of women	2 400.3	2 846.4	210.1	–	(116.3)	–	93.8	3.3	2 940.2	47.9	2 988.1
7. Conflict mitigation and development	2 037.6	2 938.5	386.0	19.3	(128.2)	–	277.1	9.4	3 215.6	43.5	3 259.1
Subtotal, C	**31 306.5**	**35 256.8**	**244.6**	**698.3**	**(1 402.4)**	**–**	**(459.5)**	**(1.3)**	**34 797.3**	**663.9**	**35 461.2**
D. Programme support	29 559.6	29 363.2	–	–	–	(748.6)	(748.6)	(2.5)	28 614.6	1 122.6	29 737.2
Subtotal, 1	**64 409.2**	**69 177.9**	**244.6**	**698.0**	**(1 557.0)**	**(748.6)**	**(1 363.0)**	**(2.0)**	**67 814.9**	**1 916.3**	**69 731.2**

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

	2010-2011 expenditure	2012-2013 estimate	Source of funds	2014-2015 estimate
C. Programme of work	3 580.4	11 160.1		12 120.4
Subtotal, 2	**3 580.4**	**11 160.1**		**12 120.4**
Total	**67 989.6**	**80 338.0**		**81 851.6**

[a] A/67/529 and Corr.1.

Table 22.4 **Post resources**

Category	Established regular budget		Temporary: Regular budget		Temporary: Other assessed		Temporary: Extrabudgetary		Total	
	2012-2013	2014-2015	2012-2013	2014-2015	2012-2013	2014-2015	2012-2013	2014-2015	2012-2013	2014-2015
Professional and higher										
USG	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
D-2	1	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	2
D-1	9	8	–	–	–	–	–	–	9	8
P-5	25	25	–	–	–	–	–	–	25	25
P-4/3	64	64	–	–	–	–	–	–	64	64
P-2/1	18	17	–	–	–	–	–	–	18	17
Subtotal	**118**	**117**	–	–	–	–	–	–	**118**	**117**
Other categories										
Local level	143	130	–	–	–	–	–	–	143	130
Field service	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
National Professional Officer	2	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	3
Subtotal	**146**	**134**	–	–	–	–	–	–	**146**	**134**
Total	**264**	**251**	–	–	–	–	–	–	**264**	**251**

Table 22.5 **Distribution of resources by component**

(Percentage)

	Regular budget	Other assessed	Extrabudgetary
A. Policymaking organs	0.2	–	–
B. Executive direction and management	6.3	–	–
C. Programme of work			
1. Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development	10.0	–	51.7
2. Social development	8.4	–	2.0
3. Economic development and integration	11.3	–	4.1
4. Information and communications technology for regional integration	6.6	–	1.6
5. Statistics for evidence-based policymaking	5.9	–	0.6
6. Advancement of women	4.4	–	0.6
7. Conflict mitigation and development	4.7	–	39.4
Subtotal	**51.3**	**–**	**100.0**
D. Programme support	42.2	–	–
Total	**100.0**	**–**	**100.0**

Technical adjustments

22.34 Resource changes reflect the removal of non-recurrent requirements ($351,500) provided in support of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want" (A/67/591, A/67/639), in line with resolution 67/246, which is offset

in part by an increase of $596,100 relating to the delayed impact of three new posts (2 D-1 and 1 P-5) that were established in the biennium 2012-2013.

New mandates and inter-component changes

22.35 Resources in the amount of $698,000 have been provided in support of the outcome document of the Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled "The future we want" (A/67/591, A/67/639), in line with resolution 67/246. In addition, resources have been redistributed across subprogrammes and various objects of expenditure in efforts to better implement existing mandates.

Changes in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248

22.36 Resource changes of $1,557,000 are proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as outlined in table 22.6 below.

Table 22.6 **Resource changes in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248**

Item	*Net reductions in inputs*	*Description*	*Reductions in the volume of outputs*	*Reductions in performance targets*
1	**Executive direction and management** Abolishment: 1 LL Programme Assistant **Programme of work** *Subprogramme 1* Abolishment: 1 P-3 Economic Affairs Officer *Subprogramme 2* Abolishment: 1 P-2 Associate Social Affairs Officer *Subprogramme 3* Abolishment: 1 LL Research Assistant *Subprogramme 4* Abolishment: 1 LL Staff Assistant *Subprogramme 5* Abolishment: 1 LL Statistical Assistant	**Reduced timeliness of output delivery** Total reduction: $1,324,000 The P-3 Economic Affairs Officer would have been involved with the follow-up to some activities of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. The proposed abolishment would require redistribution of work to other Professional staff. However, the timeliness in follow-up would be affected. The abolishment of 1 P-2 Associate Social Affairs Officer would affect outputs in the area of population and migration at national and international levels. The abolishment of 5 LL posts under Programme of work would affect the timeliness of administrative outputs, as that would increase the workload of other administrative staff and, consequently, administrative performance. The reduction of 1 LL Programme Assistant under Executive direction and management in the area of public information would have an impact on the number of press releases, on the information kit and on audiovisual material. The electronic dissemination of public information material would be enhanced.	–	**Executive direction and management** Table 22.10 (a) (i): "Timely delivery of outputs and services" Estimate 2012-2013: 93 per cent output delivery within established deadlines Target 2014-2015: 90 per cent **Executive direction and management** Table 22.10 (e) (ii): "Increased number of clients of public information serviced by ESCWA" Estimate 2012-2013: 5,000 Target 2014-2015: 4,500

Item	Net reductions in inputs	Description	Reductions in the volume of outputs	Reductions in performance targets
	Subprogramme 6 Abolishment: 1 LL Administrative Assistant			
	Subprogramme 7 Abolishment: 1 LL Research Assistant			
2	**Policymaking organs** Reduction: Temporary assistance for meetings	**Reduction in the number of expert group meetings and intergovernmental meetings** Total reduction: $211,000 The proposed reductions would affect the number of ad hoc expert groups convened by ESCWA. The Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development in the Countries of the Arab Region would meet only once per biennium and the duration of three intergovernmental meetings would be reduced from three to two days.	–	–
	Executive direction and management Reduction: Ad Hoc Expert Group			
	Programme of work *Subprogramme 1* Reduction: Ad Hoc Expert Group			
	Subprogramme 2 Reduction: General temporary assistance			
	Subprogramme 3 Reduction: Consultants Ad Hoc Expert Group General temporary assistance and overtime			
	Subprogramme 4 Reduction: Consultants General temporary assistance			

Item *Net reductions in inputs*	*Description*	*Reductions in the volume of outputs*	*Reductions in performance targets*
Subprogramme 5 Reduction: Consultants Ad Hoc Expert Group			
Subprogramme 6 Addition: General temporary assistance			
Subprogramme 7 Reduction: Consultants			
Addition: General temporary assistance			
3 **Programme of work**	**Reduction in official travel** Total reduction: $22,000	–	–
Subprogramme 3 Reduction: Travel of staff to meetings and conferences Official travel of staff	Participation in conferences and meetings held by other United Nations agencies would be reduced, as well as missions to ESCWA member countries to participate in meetings and discuss regional and economic integration and trade.		

Changes reflected in the Secretary-General's report on the budget outline for 2014-2015

22.37 Reductions in line with the report of the Secretary-General on the budget outline for 2014-2015 amount to $748,600. The primary areas of reductions in the amount of $397,000 are outlined in table 22.7 below.

Table 22.7 **Primary areas of resource changes in line with the Secretary-General's budget outline**

Net reductions in inputs	*Description*	*Reductions in the volume of outputs*	*Reductions in performance targets*
Programme support Abolishment: 1 LL Programme Assistant 1 LL Computer Information Systems Assistant 1 LL Inventory and Supply Assistant 2 LL Mail Assistants 1 LL Messenger Reclassification: 1 D-1 Director to D-2 Deputy Executive Secretary for Programme Support 1 LL Document Distribution Clerk to NPO Conference Service Officer Conversion: 1 P-4 Medical Officer from General temporary assistance Addition: General temporary assistance	**Alignment of the organizational structure of ESCWA through increased efficiency of administrative processes** Total net reduction in posts: $397,000 Improvements in technology and increased efficiency of administrative processes allow for the reduction of Local level posts. Tools such as eSTAD (internal Lotus Notes-based application) and Inspira generate efficiencies in traditional client services. Service-level agreements lead to a better and timely servicing and management of the needs of substantive divisions. Records digitization would simplify storage and retrieval of key official documents. Processes such as mail collection, internal mail dispatching and messenger services would be streamlined and their frequency reduced without affecting the quality of service. In revising certain administrative processes and increasing workforce professionalization in administration, ESCWA has realigned its programme support structure. A Deputy Executive Secretary for Programme Support at the D-2 level would oversee all programme support, safety and security, programme planning, technical cooperation and support to the Regional Coordination Mechanism. During International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) implementation, receipting, asset management and other key IPSAS processes would require a new general temporary assistance position at the P-3 level in General Services. Moreover, a National Professional Officer-level post in Conference Services would be established, in lieu of 1 LL post. A General temporary assistance position at the P-4 level previously funded under joint medical services will be converted to a P-4 post following the recommendation of the Joint Inspection Unit in its report entitled "Review of the medical service in the United Nations system" (A/66/327).	–	–

Extrabudgetary resources

22.38 ESCWA mobilizes extrabudgetary resources to foster innovative project ideas that are then able to take off, engage donors, nurture important partnerships for the region and respond to emerging issues in member countries. In 2012, approximately $3.3 million was received to implement national and regional activities under the seven subprogrammes from extrabudgetary resources. The main fields of implementation are climate change, water resources and Millennium Development Goals, democratic transformation, public sector modernization, civic values for adolescents, gender, ICT development, economic development and foreign direct investment, statistics, population and participatory approaches in public policies. Currently, the main partners are the Swedish International Development Agency, UN-Women, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development, the World Bank, the Arab Fund, the International Development Research Centre and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). During the biennium 2014-2015, extrabudgetary resources in the amount of $12,120,400 are estimated to complement resources from the regular budget to finance the activities aimed at national capacity-building, including advisory missions, training workshops and field projects.

Other information

22.39 ESCWA has developed a performance monitoring tool to enhance the joint management of programme and budget performance information and is piloting a dashboard to provide managers with real-time information on the impact of their management decisions on, inter alia, budget utilization, post vacancies, staff attendance, gender balance, and other indicators of accountability. In addition, in line with its newly revised evaluation policy, ESCWA will conduct discretionary self-evaluations designed to complement the programme performance report. In 2014-2015, such discretionary self-evaluations will be conducted for three subprogrammes: Statistics for evidence-based policymaking, Advancement of women and Conflict mitigation and development. The evaluations will specifically examine the efficient use of programme resources, the utility and reliability of the planning process, the level of consultation with ESCWA member countries in setting the strategic direction of the programme and the level of engagement with other regional actors. Good practice for future programming will also be identified.

22.40 Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/269, and in line with the newly revised evaluation policy of ESCWA, resources identified for the conduct of monitoring and evaluation would amount to $333,000, representing under regular budget 18 and 19.5 work-months for Professional staff and local-level staff, respectively, plus $48,500 in non-post resources. Integrating lessons learned and recommendations of subprogramme evaluators will be monitored and assessed through a performance compact with the Executive Secretary. The performance compact will be revised and updated at the end of the biennium, in preparation for the following one.

22.41 In 2011-2012, ESCWA engaged in partnerships with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the League of Arab States in the regional preparations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, holding meetings, workshops and consultations with member countries and regional experts on the conference themes. Those activities exemplified the focused support of the United Nations to the Governments of the region in their preparation for a major global event, and culminated in a set of regional recommendations that reflected the Arab position at Rio de Janeiro and were endorsed at the ministerial level in the region. ESCWA and UNEP will move this partnership forward in the coming years to support the implementation of the recommendations of the Conference on Sustainable Development in the region. Similarly, ESCWA has a long-term successful partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in

advancing the agenda of the International Conference on Population and Development in the region. ESCWA has also taken concrete steps for collaboration with the UNDP regional bureau, arranging mutual visits and meetings between substantive divisions. The two organizations are currently cooperating on establishing joint activities that would also involve other United Nations agencies. In addition, ESCWA is engaged in partnerships with a number of other United Nations entities, including the International Labour Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, UN-Women, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD). ESCWA consistently pursues and maintains partnerships with other regional commissions, notably through development account projects, high-level meetings and publications.

22.42 ESCWA convenes the Regional Coordination Mechanism which brings together all United Nations entities in the region, to increase policy coherence and promote partnerships and joint activities around regional development priorities. ESCWA leads two of the four regional coordination mechanism thematic working groups, on Millennium Development Goals and statistics. Coordination with regional United Nations entities also occurs through the peer support group of the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), where ESCWA actively contributes to the analysis of UNDAF and Common Country Assessment documents. ESCWA also participates in UNDG meetings and was one of four United Nations entities that revised and finalized the regional response to the 2011 UNDG strategy.

22.43 The issue of publications as part of the programme of work has been reviewed in the context of each subprogramme. It is anticipated that recurrent and non-recurrent publications will be issued as summarized in table 22.8 below and as distributed in the output information for each subprogramme.

Table 22.8 **Summary of publications**

	2010-2011 actual			*2012-2013 estimate*			*2014-2015 estimate*		
	Print	*Electronic*	*Print and electronic*	*Print*	*Electronic*	*Print and electronic*	*Print*	*Electronic*	*Print and electronic*
Recurrent	29	17	–	–	–	31	–	–	28
Non-recurrent	18	14	–	–	–	28	–	–	15
Total	**47**	**31**	–	–	–	**59**	–	–	**43**

A. Policymaking organs

Resource requirements (before recosting): $146,600

22.44 The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia reports to the Economic and Social Council, and sessions of the Commission provide overall direction to the work of the secretariat. The session convenes once biennially for four working days, normally at ESCWA headquarters. As mandated by ESCWA resolution 230 (XXI), the Preparatory Committee is an integral part of the sessions of the Commission. Consequently, the twenty-eighth session will convene in 2014, with a Senior Officials segment (2 days) to consider programmatic agenda items, followed by the Ministerial plenary segment (2 days).

22.45 The Technical Committee meets three times per biennium to advise the secretariat on programmatic issues, including the following: the draft strategic framework; the proposed programme of work; the implementation of the programme of work; resource mobilization; following up on the resolutions of the Commission; and identification of emerging regional economic and social issues for the consideration of the Commission.[1]

22.46 The Commission comprises seven specialized subsidiary intergovernmental committees: five of them meet biennially and two meet annually.[2] The sequence and dates of their sessions and those of the Technical Committee will be as follows:

(a) The tenth session of the Committee on Energy (subprogramme 1) (2 days in 2014);

(b) The eleventh session of the Committee on Water Resources (subprogramme 1) (2 days in 2015);

(c) The tenth session of the Committee on Social Development (subprogramme 2) (2 days in 2015);

(d) The fifteenth and sixteenth sessions of the Committee on Transport (subprogramme 3) (2 days in 2014 and 2 days in 2015);

(e) The ninth and tenth sessions of the Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development in the Countries of the Arab Region (subprogramme 3) (2 days in 2014 and 2 days in 2015);

(f) The eleventh session of the Statistical Committee (subprogramme 5) (2 days in 2014);

(g) Fourth meeting of the Bureau of the Statistical Committee (subprogramme 5) (1 day in 2015);

(h) The seventh session of the Committee on Women (subprogramme 6) (2 days in 2015);

(i) The first session of the Committee on Emerging Issues and Development in Conflict Settings (subprogramme 7) (2 days in 2015);[3]

(j) The tenth meeting of the Technical Committee (2 days in 2014);

(k) The eleventh meeting of the Technical Committee (2 days in 2015);

(l) The twelfth meeting of the Technical Committee (2 days in 2015).

22.47 The Advisory Committee of Ambassadors meets twice a year to ensure continued dialogue between the secretariat and member countries (2 days in 2014 and 2 days in 2015). The Advisory Committee comprises heads of diplomatic missions in the host country of the Commission and a high-level representative of the host country. The Advisory Committee plays a consultative role and functions as a principal means of communications between member countries and the ESCWA

[1] The Technical Committee was established pursuant to the decision of the Commission at its twenty-fourth session (Beirut, 8-11 May 2006) with the aim of enhancing interaction and close consultation between the members of the Commission and its secretariat on substantive development issues. The sessions of the Technical Committee are held every six months.

[2] The Committee on Transport meets annually, as mandated by ESCWA in resolution 229 (XXI) on the frequency of the sessions of the ESCWA Committee on Transport. The Technical Committee on Liberalization of Foreign Trade, Economic Globalization and Financing for Development in the Countries of the Arab Region will meet annually starting in 2013, as mandated by ESCWA in resolution 313 (XXVII) on the frequency of the sessions of the ESCWA Technical Committee.

[3] The Committee on Emerging Issues and Development in Conflict Settings will meet once in the biennium (starting 2015), as mandated by ESCWA in resolution 292 (XXVI). The aim of the Committee will be to review emerging and conflict-related priorities in the Arab region and to ensure that the work programme of subprogramme 7 reflects those priorities.

secretariat and between member countries themselves on important matters requiring attention in between the biennial sessions of the Commission.

22.48 The total number of meetings of the legislative bodies amounts to 35 meeting days.

22.49 The distribution of resources for policymaking organs is reflected in table 22.9 below.

Table 22.9 **Resource requirements: policymaking organs**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
Regular budget				
Non-post	160.6	146.6	–	–
Total	**160.6**	**146.6**	–	–

22.50 A provision of $146,600 is requested under: (a) temporary assistance and overtime to service the sessions of the twenty-eighth session of the Commission, the Technical Committee meetings and the subprogramme committee meetings by providing interpretation, translation, editing and revision; and (b) meeting assistants for the temporary replacement staff to meet the peak workload periods. The decrease of $14,000 reflects the reduction under temporary assistance for meetings in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 2, of the present report.

B. Executive direction and management

Resource requirements (before recosting): $4,256,400

22.51 Executive direction and management, which includes the Office of the Executive Secretary, provides overall direction and integrated management, programme oversight, planning and coordination, and policy guidelines to the substantive divisions, the technical cooperation programme and the support services for the proper implementation of the work programme of ESCWA as mandated by the General Assembly. It also ensures that ESCWA, as the regional arm of the United Nations, plays a major role in the economic and social development of the region; undertakes to translate issues of global importance into regional action as mandated by member countries; and facilitates the articulation of the collective concerns of member countries by incorporating them into the global agenda. Moreover, the Office of the Executive Secretary maintains effective and regular contact with representatives of member countries, as well as with the host country's senior officials, to exchange views on substantive and managerial issues of mutual concern, and with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and with the Regional Commissions New York Office.

22.52 In addition, the Office of the Executive Secretary ensures the development of United Nations system-wide policies and mandates and promotes coherence and effective collaboration and coordination between ESCWA and other entities of the United Nations system, especially between the five regional commissions, specialized agencies, funds and programmes. It will continue to strengthen cooperation and coordination with international and regional intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, especially with the League of Arab States and its subsidiary bodies.

22.53 The Office of the Executive Secretary is responsible for the functioning and servicing of the Commission's intergovernmental machinery, including the Commission's biennial session and the meetings of subsidiary intergovernmental bodies, the ESCWA Advisory Committee of Ambassadors and the ESCWA Technical Committee.[4]

Table 22.10 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To ensure full implementation of legislative mandates and compliance with United Nations policies and procedures with respect to the management of the programme of work, staff and financial resources

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Effective management of the ESCWA programme of work	(a) (i) Timely delivery of outputs and services *Performance measures* (Percentage of output delivery within established deadlines) 2010-2011: 90 per cent Estimate 2012-2013: 93 per cent Target 2014-2015: 90 per cent (ii) Efficient and effective use of resources *Performance measures* (Percentage of expenditure compared to funds authorized) 2010-2011: 100 per cent Estimate 2012-2013: 100 per cent Target 2014-2015: 100 per cent
(b) Increased timeliness of the submission of documentation	(b) Increase in the percentage of pre-session documents submitted in accordance with the required deadline *Performance measures* (Percentage of pre-session documents submitted in accordance with the required deadline)

[4] Pursuant to the decision of the Commission at its twenty-fourth session (Beirut, 8-11 May 2006), the Technical Committee was established to enhance interaction and close consultation between the member countries and ESCWA on substantive issues.

	2010-2011: not applicable Estimate 2012-2013: 100 per cent Target 2014-2015: 100 per cent
(c) Identification of emerging issues that require attention by member countries	(c) Increase in the number of decisions and recommendations by member countries to address issues that have been brought to their attention by the secretariat *Performance measures* (Number of recommendations made by intergovernmental bodies) 2010-2011: 85 recommendations Estimate 2012-2013: 90 recommendations Target 2014-2015: 95 recommendations
(d) Enhanced policy coherence in the management of the economic and social activities of the United Nations	(d) Increase in the number of deliverables produced under the purview of the Regional Coordination Mechanism or one of its thematic working groups *Performance measures* (Number of outputs delivered in collaboration with other United Nations entities and regional organizations under the Regional Coordination Mechanism or one of its thematic working groups) 2010-2011: 7 outputs delivered Estimate 2012-2013: 15 outputs delivered Target 2014-2015: 15 outputs delivered
(e) Increased public awareness of the work of ESCWA in pursuing regional priorities and emerging issues	(e) (i) Increased media coverage of ESCWA activities *Performance measures* (Number of audiovisual and written press reports of ESCWA activities) 2010-2011: not applicable Estimate 2012-2013: 1,000 audiovisual and written press reports Target 2014-2015: 1,100 audiovisual and written press reports

	(ii) Increased number of clients of public information serviced by ESCWA
	Performance measures
	(Number of public information clients serviced by ESCWA)
	2010-2011: 4,260 clients
	Estimate 2012-2013: 5,000 clients
	Target 2014-2015: 4,500 clients

External factors

22.54 The Office is expected to achieve its objectives and accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) the political situation in the host country and the region does not deteriorate; (b) member Governments will actively participate in the formulation of the ESCWA programme of work; (c) member countries have the capacity and will to reorient their economic and social structures and policies; and (d) national institutions will be willing to provide relevant and timely information.

Outputs

22.55 During the biennium 2014-2015, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Planning and substantive servicing of the sessions of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies (8);

(ii) Planning and substantive servicing of the ESCWA Technical Committee (12);

(iii) Substantive servicing of meetings, planning and substantive servicing of the meetings of the Advisory Committee of Ambassadors (4);

(iv) Ad hoc expert groups: planning and substantive servicing of an Arab think tank meeting (1); planning and substantive servicing of meetings of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (2);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: *Arab Development Journal* (4); ESCWA annual report 2013 (2);

(ii) Exhibits, guided tours, lectures: briefings/lectures to schools, universities and visitors on the work of the United Nations in general, and ESCWA in particular (2);

(iii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits: brochures, pamphlets, leaflets, posters and other promotional material on ESCWA activities (2); electronic Daily News in English and Arabic on the ESCWA website (2);

(iv) Press releases, press conferences: arranging media interviews for the Executive Secretary and other senior officials (2); organization of press conferences and press briefings for the Executive Secretary and other senior officials as well as for the launching of flagship publications and major events (2); preparation of press releases in English and Arabic on ESCWA meetings and activities and their dissemination to media

throughout the region (2); provision of media coverage for ESCWA meetings and activities (2);

(v) Special events: planning and servicing of selective international days and weeks such as the UN Day, International Women's Day and World Environment Day, which involve inviting official representatives from member countries, the diplomats accredited to the host country, Arab dignitaries, representatives of civil society, and the media;

(vi) Technical material: regular updating of the main page of the ESCWA website (2); regular updating of the web page of the Office of the Executive Secretary and of the online media databases (2).

22.56 The distribution of resources for executive direction and management is reflected in table 22.11 below.

Table 22.11 **Resource requirements: executive direction and management**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
Regular budget				
Post	3 729.2	3 590.6	16	15
Non-post	668.1	665.8	–	–
Total	**4 397.3**	**4 256.4**	**16**	**15**

22.57 The amount of $3,590,600 would provide for the 15 posts in the Office of the Executive Secretary (1 USG, 1 D-2, 1 P-5, 1 P-4, 1 P-3, 1 P-2, 8 Local level) and the Information Service (1 Local level) shown in table 22.11 above. The decrease of $138,600 reflects the abolishment of one Local level post of Programme Assistant in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 1, of the present report.

22.58 The non-post resources of $665,800 include provisions for: (a) general temporary assistance and overtime, which would provide for the preparation and servicing of the twenty-eighth session of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies; (b) consultants for the preparation of the 2013 annual report (in 2014) and the 2014 annual report (in 2015); (c) one think tank meeting in 2015 and two Regional Coordination Mechanism meetings in 2014 and 2015; (d) travel requirements of the Office of the Executive Secretary and the information services; and (e) provisions for business continuity. The decrease of $2,300 reflects the reduction under Ad Hoc Expert Group in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 2, of the present report.

C. Programme of work

Table 22.12 **Resource requirements by subprogramme**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
	2012-2013	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
1. Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development	6 718.5	6 773.4	24	23
2. Social development	5 956.7	5 723.4	23	22
3. Economic development and integration	7 995.3	7 690.9	30	29
4. Information and communications technology for regional integration	4 657.2	4 468.9	17	16
5. Statistics for evidence-based policymaking	4 144.2	3 984.9	16	15
6. Advancement of women	2 846.4	2 940.2	11	10
7. Conflict mitigation and development	2 938.5	3 215.6	11	10
Subtotal	**35 256.8**	**34 797.3**	**132**	**125**
Extrabudgetary	11 160.1	12 120.4	–	–
Total	**46 416.9**	**46 917.7**	**132**	**125**

Subprogramme 1
Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development

Resource requirements (before recosting): $6,773,400

22.59 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 1 is vested in the Sustainable Development and Productivity Division. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under subprogramme 1 of programme 19 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015.

Table 22.13 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To achieve sustainable development in the region through integrated natural resource management

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	**Indicators of achievement**
(a) Strengthened national capacity to develop and increase inclusive and equitable socioeconomic opportunities by increasing the productivity of small and medium-sized enterprises for employment creation and economic diversification	(a) (i) Increased number of measures on small and medium-sized enterprises formulated by line ministries, chambers of commerce and other actors, to increase the productivity of small and medium-sized enterprises

		Performance measures (Number of measures) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 0 Target 2014-2015: 3
		(ii) Increased number of institutions involved in creating opportunities for generating employment through small and medium-sized enterprises *Performance measures* (Number of institutions) 2010-2011: 6 Estimate 2012-2013: 10 Target 2014-2015: 12
(b) Enhanced capacities of member countries to develop and implement national, subregional and regional policies, strategies and action plans for the sustainable management of water, energy and land	(b)	(i) Increased number of policies, plans and strategies adopted by relevant ministries in member countries addressing water, energy and land needs *Performance measures* (Number of policies, plans and strategies) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 0 Target 2014-2015: 3
		(ii) Increased number of interventions to improve access to and efficiency of water and energy services *Performance measures* (Number of related interventions and actions undertaken by member countries and supported by ESCWA) 2010-2011: 4 Estimate 2012-2013: 7 Target 2014-2015: 9

(c) Enhanced food, water and energy security of the Arab region to sustain long-term development and preserve the achievements in poverty alleviation and human development by promoting regional cooperation on shared water resources, energy networks and land management	(c) Increased number of intergovernmental recommendations adopted on regional cooperative initiatives related to water, energy and food security *Performance measures* (Number of recommendations) 2010-2011: 6 Estimate 2012-2013: 10 Target 2014-2015: 13
(d) Enhanced resilience and crisis management capacities of member countries to absorb and respond to the impact of crises, including the development of subregional and regional mechanisms, for a coordinated response to climate change and natural crises	(d) Increased number of recommendations adopted by member countries that aim at coordinated responses to climate change and natural crises *Performance measures* (Number of recommendations) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 5 Target 2014-2015: 9

External factors

22.60 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) member countries remain committed to giving due priority to sustainable development issues and to adopt relevant measures; (b) there is political stability and willingness of member countries to cooperate on sustainable development issues; and (c) there is no significant shortfall in extrabudgetary resources.

Outputs

22.61 During the biennium 2014-2015, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: parliamentary documentation: report to the Commission on the ninth session of the Committee on Energy (1); report to the Commission on the tenth session of the Committee on Water Resources (1);

(ii) Committee on Water Resources:

a. Substantive servicing of the eleventh session of the Committee (4);

b. Parliamentary documentation: progress in assessing the impact of climate change on water resources and socioeconomic vulnerability in the Arab region (1); progress in implementing the Millennium Development Goals Plus Initiative: looking beyond 2015 (1);

(iii) Committee on Energy:

a. Substantive servicing of the tenth session of the Committee (4);

b. Parliamentary documentation: energy security and regional integration (1); potential for technology transfer and local manufacturing of renewable energy equipment in the Arab region (1);

(iv) Ad hoc expert groups: on assessing cooperation in shared water resources in the Arab region (1); conference on stakeholders dialogue for sustainable development goals (2); on enhancing the sustainable management of water, energy and land (1); high-level forum on the means of implementing the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and follow-up (1); on impacts of energy subsidies on economic growth and climate change mitigation measures (1); on job creation through sustainable energy for all (1);

(v) Assistance to representatives and rapporteurs: support to the Arab Ministerial Council for Electricity and Technical Committees on Electricity and Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency (2); support to the Technical Scientific Advisory Committee of the Arab Ministerial Water Council (2); support to the Executive Secretariat of the ESCWA-UNEP-League of Arab States Joint Committee on Environment and Development in the Arab Region and follow-up on the resolutions adopted by the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (2); support to the Arab Permanent Committee on Meteorology (2);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: ESCWA Water Development Report No. 6: The Water, Energy and Food Security Nexus (1);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications: cooperation on shared water resources in the Arab region (1); development trends in the energy sector in the Arab region (1); pathways towards sustainable agricultural production and consumption in the Arab region (1); regional cooperation for energy security (1); sustainable development report on the Arab region (1); The future we want: greening the productive sectors (1);

(iii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits: profile of national and regional institutions for sustainable development (1); promotional material for the World Environment Day (2); promotional material for the World Water Day; Water-Energy Nexus (2014), Water and Development (2015) (2); renewable energy technologies for the ESCWA region (1); sustainable energy for all (1); the potential contribution of energy efficiency to energy security and climate change mitigation in the ESCWA region (1); water supply and sanitation: beyond 2015 (1);

(iv) Technical material: a regional framework for the sustainable development goals (1); access to water supply and sanitation in the Arab region: looking beyond 2015 (1); financing for sustainable development in the region (1); green jobs within green small and medium-sized enterprises: opportunities and challenges (1); strengthening the institutional framework for sustainable development in the Arab region (1); technology development and transfer needs in the region for sustainable development (1);

(v) Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings: global and regional forums on energy (2); seventh World Water Forum (1); Stockholm World Water Week on the "Water-Energy Nexus" (1); Stockholm World Water Week on "Water and Development" (1); substantive input to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at

its twenty-first and twenty-second sessions (2); UN-Water task force on country coordination (1); UN-Water inter-agency coordination for the preparation of the World Water Development Report, and joint initiatives pursued through the thematic priority areas on "Water and Climate Change" and "Transboundary Waters" (1); United Nations Coordination Bodies on Energy (2); support to the high-level political forum replacing the Commission on Sustainable Development (2); substantive input to the meeting of the United Nations Regional Coordination Mechanism (1);

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary): field projects: adaptation to climate change in the water sector in the Middle East and North Africa region (1); assessment of the impact of climate change on water resources and socioeconomic development in the Arab region (1); building capacity in developing appropriate green technologies to improve the livelihood of rural communities in the Arab region (1); building the capacity of the Arab countries for climate change adaptation through integrated water resources management tools (1); developing the capacity of ESCWA member countries to address the Water-Energy Nexus for achieving sustainable development goals (1); establishing a regional mechanism for improved monitoring and reporting on access to water supply and sanitation services in the Arab region: the Millennium Development Goals Plus Initiative (1); promoting renewable energy investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development (1); promoting energy efficiency investments for climate change mitigation and sustainable development (1); promoting sustainable agricultural production and consumption in the Arab region (1); regional initiative for the assessment of the impact of climate change on water resources and socioeconomic vulnerability in the Arab region (1); regional initiative on energy efficiency in buildings and other sectors in the Arab region (1); support to the Arab integrated water resources management network (AWARENET) (1); sustainable development and a food-secure Arab world: promoting the food-water-energy nexus approach as a knowledge and policy tool (1).

22.62 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 1 is reflected in table 22.14 below.

Table 22.14 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 1**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
Regular budget				
Post	5 958.9	5 682.5	24	23
Non-post	759.6	1 090.9	–	–
Subtotal	**6 718.5**	**6 773.4**	**24**	**23**
Extrabudgetary	7 246.4	6 279.4	–	–
Total	**13 964.9**	**13 052.8**	**24**	**23**

22.63 The amount of $5,682,500 under posts would provide for the 23 posts (1 D-1, 4 P-5, 4 P-4, 2 P-3, 2 P-2, 10 Local level) shown in table 22.14. The decrease of $276,400 relates to the proposed abolishment of one P-3 post of Economic Affairs Officer in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 1, of the present report.

22.64 The non-post resources of $1,090,900 would provide for other personnel costs, consultants, expert group meetings and travel of staff. The increase of $331,300 relates to higher provision for Conference on Sustainable Development activities and is partially offset by the decrease under Ad

Hoc Expert Group in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 2, of the present report.

22.65 Extrabudgetary resources estimated at $6,279,400 would complement the regular budget resources to provide for: (a) a regional initiative on energy efficiency in buildings and other areas in the Arab region; (b) promoting sustainable agricultural production and consumption in the Arab region; (c) assessment of the impact of climate change on water resources and socioeconomic vulnerability in the Arab region; (d) sustainable development and a food-secure Arab world: promoting the food-water-energy nexus approach as a knowledge and policy tool; and (e) adaptation to climate change in the water sector in the Middle East and North Africa region. The projected decrease in extrabudgetary resources is a result of the completion of projects funded from extrabudgetary resources. ESCWA will make efforts to raise additional resources in the area of water resource management, climate change, energy efficiency and the green economy.

Subprogramme 2
Social development

Resource requirements (before recosting): $5,723,400

22.66 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 2 is vested in the Social Development Division. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under subprogramme 2 of programme 19 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015.

Table 22.15 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To enhance the capacity of member countries to adopt social policies and institutional mechanisms that lead to an equitable and inclusive process of socioeconomic development, taking into consideration regional specificities

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened national capacity to develop a rights-based social policy that promotes social integration, social protection, the provision of adequate social services and employment generation	(a) (i) Increased number of new policies, programmes and measures developed that aim at expanding social protection, improving the provision of social services and generating employment *Performance measures* (Number of new policies, programmes and measures) 2010-2011: 2 Estimate 2012-2013: 4 Target 2014-2015: 6

	(ii) Increased number of policies and programmes that are formulated or enhanced to ensure the integration of key sociodemographic groups, including youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and migrants in national development processes *Performance measures* (Number of relevant policies, national plans and programmes formulated or enhanced) 2010-2011: 11 Estimate 2012-2013: 21 Target 2014-2015: 24
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to adopt social development policies and programmes based on the participation of the civil society and other stakeholders, in public policy formulation, implementation and monitoring	(b) (i) Increased number of instances in which Governments, civil society organizations and other stakeholders participate in developing, implementing and monitoring social development policies and programmes *Performance measures* (Number of reported cases/instances) 2010-2011: 6 Estimate 2012-2013: 10 Target 2014-2015: 14 (ii) Increased number of committees and joint ventures between representatives of Governments, civil society organizations and other stakeholders entrusted with the formulation, implementation and monitoring of social policies and programmes *Performance measures* (Number of committees and joint ventures) 2010-2011: 11 Estimate 2012-2013: 14 Target 2014-2015: 17

External factors

22.67 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) member countries remain committed to achieving the internationally agreed development goals and continue to support activities that promote comprehensive social development; (b) extrabudgetary financial resources are commensurate with planned activities; and (c) there is a political stability and a secure working environment.

Outputs

22.68 During the biennium 2014-2015, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: parliamentary documentation: report of the Committee on Social Development on its ninth session (1);

(ii) Committee on Social Development: substantive servicing of meetings: servicing the meetings of the tenth session of the Committee on Social Development (4);

(iii) Parliamentary documentation: policy implications of partnership in the democratic process (1); population and development issues (1); social protection for the informal sector (1);

(iv) Ad hoc expert groups: forum for a new Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities and plan of action (2014-2023) (1); labour market policies (1); participatory processes in Arab countries undergoing democratic transition (1); the impact of population policies on human development in the Arab countries (1);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: *Integrated Social Policy Report VI: Integrated policies for inclusive labour markets* (1); *Population and Development Report No. 7: The impact of population policies on human development in the Arab countries* (1);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications: inclusive social development in the Arab region (1); participatory processes in Arab countries undergoing democratic transition (1);

(iii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits: information kit on participatory development programmes: conditions and mechanisms (1); national demographic profiles of 17 ESCWA member countries (1); pamphlet/brochure on the special theme of the fifty-second session of the Commission for Social Development (1); pamphlet/brochure on the special theme of the forty-eighth session of the Commission on Population and Development (1); *Social Development Bulletin* (4);

(iv) Special events: International Day of Persons with Disabilities (2);

(v) Technical material: e-discussions on the outline of *Social Policy Report VI* (1); e-seminar on democratic transitions and civil society organizations (1); e-seminar on participation, civic engagement and social cohesion (1); labour market country profiles (1); paper on labour market trends in the Arab region (1); policy brief on participation and civic engagement (2); review of international good practice in population policies for the Arab region (1); social policy briefs (2); social protection country profiles (2); the demographic profile of the Arab region (1); the role of specialized organizations in promoting the rights of persons with disabilities (1); working paper on the role of disability organizations in promoting the rights of persons with disabilities (1);

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Advisory services: providing guidance on, and promoting greater awareness of, participatory development and civic engagement mechanisms and instruments (1);

(ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops: capacity-building for public-civic partnership in democratic governance (1); expanding social protection to the informal sector (1);

(iii) Field projects: operationalizing the ESCWA participatory approach in public policy processes in member countries (1); regional initiative on youth employment — Phase II (1); strengthening national capacities for integrated, sustainable and inclusive population and development policies in the Arab region (1).

22.69 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 2 is reflected in table 22.16 below.

Table 22.16 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 2**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
Regular budget				
Post	5 706.1	5 490.1	23	22
Non-post	250.6	233.3	–	–
Subtotal	**5 956.7**	**5 723.4**	**23**	**22**
Extrabudgetary	326.4	240.7	–	–
Total	**6 283.1**	**5 964.1**	**23**	**22**

22.70 The amount of $5,490,100 under posts would provide for the 22 posts (1 D-1, 3 P-5, 5 P-4, 2 P-3, 2 P-2, 9 Local level) shown in table 22.16 above. The decrease of $216,000 relates to the proposed abolishment of one P-2 Associate Social Affairs Officer post in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 1, of the present report.

22.71 The non-post resources in the amount of $233,300 would provide for other personnel costs, consultants, expert group meetings and travel of staff. The decrease of $17,300 relates to general temporary assistance to support the conferences in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 2, of the present report.

22.72 Extrabudgetary resources estimated at $240,700 would complement the regular budget resources to: (a) assist holding a training workshop on pro-poor urban development; (b) contribute to forging a shared vision of participatory democracy, and strengthen public-civic partnership, democratic governance and public policy processes in all areas of the State through a capacity-building workshop for public-civic partnership in democratic governance; (c) contribute to promoting democratic modes of governance and participatory practices in public policy processes in the ESCWA region, through a process of capacity-building, consensus-building and networking among key government bodies and civil society organizations through operationalizing the ESCWA participatory approach in public policy processes in ESCWA countries; (d) assist in the implementation of the Regional Youth Employment Initiative (Phase II), as a continuation of the first phase initiated in 2013, and build on the achievements of the regional project on youth (Development Account project) with a more focused approach to addressing the employment deficit in the region, particularly among the youth population; and (e) reinforce the work of

ESCWA on social protection for the informal sector. With the completion of existing projects, the subprogramme is planning to approach partners and donors to seek additional resources in line with the expected accomplishments for the biennium 2014-2015.

Subprogramme 3
Economic development and integration

Resource requirements (before recosting): $7,690,900

22.73 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 3 is vested in the Economic Development and Globalization Division. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under subprogramme 3 of programme 19 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015.

Table 22.17 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To achieve a decent standard of living through sustained economic development and integration

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened national capacity to develop inclusive and equitable socioeconomic conditions through pro-poor growth policies focused on employment generation and inclusive and equitable financial policies	(a) (i) Increased number of member countries adopting an inclusive and fair macroeconomic framework *Performance measures* (Number of countries) 2010-2011: 2 Estimate 2012-2013: 4 Target 2014-2015: 6 (ii) Increased number of policies and measures adopted by member countries to implement the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development *Performance measures* (Number of policies and measures) 2010-2011: 18 Estimate 2012-2013: 22 Target 2014-2015: 26

(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to develop knowledge-based economies with a view to sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation through effective macroeconomics as well as promoting economic diversification and competitiveness for decent job creation	(b) Increased number of member countries that request and receive ESCWA support in developing national strategies for knowledge-based economies and competitiveness *Performance measures* (Number of member countries) 2010-2011: 1 Estimate 2012-2013: 3 Target 2014-2015: 4
(c) Enhanced capacity of member countries to coordinate their social and economic policies, and ensure the implementation of regional economic agreements to achieve the potential for intraregional integration	(c) (i) Increased number of agreements between member countries on macroeconomic policy coordination *Performance measures* (Number of member countries participating in the platform for macroeconomic policies) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 2 Target 2014-2015: 3 (ii) Increased number of member countries implementing regional agreements *Performance measures* (Number of member countries) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 2 Target 2014-2015: 3
(d) Enhanced regional integration of member countries by developing and harmonizing the physical and legislative regional infrastructure	(d) Increased number of countries adopting transport agreements and/or establishing national transport and trade committees *Performance measures* (Number of accessions to the agreement and established national committees) 2010-2011: 32 Estimate 2012-2013: 35 Target 2014-2015: 37

(e) Enhanced capacity of public institutions to create an enabling environment for development through nationally led and owned good governance practices for the implementation of enhanced macroeconomic management with the full engagement of civil society organizations and the private sector	(e) Increased number of member countries requesting and receiving ESCWA support in governance reforms in line with macroeconomic changes *Performance measures* (Number of member countries) 2010-2011: 4 Estimate 2012-2013: 7 Target 2014-2015: 8

External factors

22.74 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) member countries remain committed to increasing subregional and regional cooperation and integration; (b) there are no significant shortfalls in extrabudgetary funding; (c) the political situation in the region allows the implementation of the workplan; and (d) up-to-date and reliable statistics are made available.

Outputs

22.75 During the biennium 2014-2015, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: parliamentary documentation: report of the fourteenth session of the Committee on Transport (1); report of the fifteenth session of the Committee on Transport (1); report of the eighth session of the Technical Committee on liberalization of foreign trade and economic globalization in the countries of the ESCWA region (1);

(ii) Technical Committee on liberalization of foreign trade, economic globalization and financing for development in the countries of the ESCWA region:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: substantive servicing of the eighth session of the Technical Committee on liberalization of foreign trade and economic globalization in the countries of the ESCWA region (4); substantive servicing of the ninth session of the Technical Committee on trade and finance (4);

b. Parliamentary documentation: follow-up report on financing for development (1); report on trade policy (1);

(iii) Committee on Transport: substantive servicing of meetings: substantive servicing of the fifteenth session of the Committee (4); substantive servicing of the sixteenth session of the Committee (4);

(iv) Parliamentary documentation: follow-up report on the implementation of the Agreement on International Railways in the Arab Mashreq (1); follow-up report on the implementation of the Agreement on International Roads in the Arab Mashreq (1); follow-up report on the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on maritime transport cooperation in the Arab Mashreq (1); follow-up report on the

implementation of the action plan for road traffic safety in the Arab region (1); report on the National Transport and Trade Facilitation Committees in the Arab Region (1);

(v) Ad hoc expert groups on: emerging trends and developments in the Arab region (1); governance trends and measurement (1); high-priority issues related to financing for development (1); implementation of the policy recommendations of the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region (1); investment policy in the Arab region (1); macroeconomic policy convergence and regional integration (1); redesigning the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region 2013-2014 (1); and transport and trade facilitation in the ESCWA region (1);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: *Development Finance in the Arab Region* (1); *Arab Development Outlook 2014* (1); *Economic Integration in the Arab Region* (1); *Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region 2013-2014* (1); *Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region 2014-2015* (1);

(ii) Special events: launch of the Arab Development Outlook 2014 (1); launch of the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region 2013-2014 (1); launch of the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the ESCWA Region 2014-2015 (1);

(iii) Technical material: working paper on developing innovative policies on economic governance (1); working paper on measuring governance development (1); working paper on poverty and inequality measurement in the Arab region (1); working paper on innovative and viable macroeconomic governance policies for inclusive development in the Arab region (1); working paper on development policy (2); working paper on investment policy in the Arab region (1); working paper on macroeconomic policy convergence and regional integration (1); working paper on technical and non-tariff barriers to trade (1);

(iv) Contribution to joint outputs: contribution to the annual report of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development on aid for trade statistics (2); contribution to the expert group meeting on the impact of energy subsidies on economic growth and climate change mitigation measures (1); contribution to the non-recurrent publication on transition to a knowledge-based economy in the Arab region (1); contribution to the report on progress in assessing the impact of climate change on water resources and socioeconomic vulnerability in the Arab region (1); contribution to the technical material on measuring the contribution of information and communications technology to economic development (1); regional inputs to the annual publication of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat: *World Economic Situation and Prospects 2014* (1); regional inputs to the annual publication of the Department: *World Economic Situation and Prospects 2015* (1);

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Advisory services: advisory services on foreign direct investment, bilateral investment treaties and remittances reforming the regulatory framework for inclusive finance (1); advisory services on aid effectiveness (1);

(ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops: regional workshop on different tax systems enforced in member countries with a focus on value added tax that is pro-poor (1); training workshop on national strategies for a knowledge-based economy and competitiveness (1); training workshops on sound economic governance, including,

inter alia, transparency and disclosure, ownership and transition of State-owned enterprises (1);

(iii) Field projects on: strengthening capacities in the ESCWA region to negotiate bilateral investment treaties (1); strengthening capacities to utilize worker's remittances in financing for development (1); strengthening the capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to facilitate legitimate border crossing, regional cooperation and integration (1).

22.76 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 3 is reflected in table 22.18 below.

Table 22.18 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 3**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
Regular budget				
Post	7 364.1	7 225.5	30	29
Non-post	631.2	465.4	–	–
Subtotal	**7 995.3**	**7 690.9**	**30**	**29**
Extrabudgetary	419.3	500.0	–	–
Total	**8 414.6**	**8 190.9**	**30**	**29**

22.77 The amount of $7,225,500 under posts would provide for the 29 posts (1 D-1, 4 P-5, 7 P-4, 3 P-3, 2 P-2, 12 Local level) shown in table 22.18 above. The decrease of $138,600 relates to the abolishment of one Local level post of Research Assistant in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 1, of the present report.

22.78 The non-post resources in the amount of $465,400 would provide for other personnel costs, consultants, expert group meetings and travel of staff. The decrease of $165,800 reflects the reductions under consultants, expert groups, overtime and night differential, travel of staff of conferences and official travel of staff in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, items 2 and 3, of the present report.

22.79 Extrabudgetary resources estimated at $500,000 would complement the regular budget resources and would be utilized for: (a) high-level meetings on short-, medium- and long-term challenges of economic and social transition in the Arab world; (b) strengthening expertise and networking on foreign direct investment in Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar; and (c) allowing ESCWA to play a proactive role in supporting Syria in the participatory design of inclusive development and reform plans. The projected increase in extrabudgetary resources compared with the previous biennium is a result of additional projects envisaged for the next biennium. In view of the global attention to the region's socioeconomic transition and discussions with partners, it is expected that additional resources would be made available to ESCWA in the area of macroeconomic modelling and integrated support to member countries of ESCWA.

Subprogramme 4
Information and communications technology for regional integration

Resource requirements (before recosting): $4,468,900

22.80 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 4 is vested in the Information and Communications Technology Division. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under subprogramme 4 of programme 19 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015.

Table 22.19 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To accelerate bridging the digital divide and building, by member countries, an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society and knowledge-based economy for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries to develop and benefit from knowledge-based economies for sustainable economic growth and poverty alleviation	(a) (i) Increased number of member countries implementing information and communications technology (ICT) policies, strategies and plans of action that emphasize the development of knowledge-based economies *Performance measures* (Number of member countries) 2010-2011: 4 Estimate 2012-2013: 8 Target 2014-2015: 10 (ii) Increased number of member countries showing progress in the implementation of internationally agreed indicators on a knowledge-based economy *Performance measures* (Number of member countries) 2010-2011: 3 Estimate 2012-2013: 5 Target 2014-2015: 7

		(iii) Increased number of partnerships and technology-based projects and programmes launched and implemented in the region by the ESCWA Technology Centre *Performance measures* (Number of partnerships and initiatives) 2010-2011: 1 Estimate 2012-2013: 15 Target 2014-2015: 30
(b) Enhanced competitiveness of the ICT sector in the region on the production and service delivery levels with special focus on partnerships, research, development and innovation	(b)	(i) Increased number of regional initiatives for the development of information and knowledge societies through partnerships, research, development and innovation, and information and communications technology applications *Performance measures* (Number of regional initiatives) 2010-2011: 4 Estimate 2012-2013: 6 Target 2014-2015: 7 (ii) Increased number of member countries using the Core ICT Indicators developed by the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development to measure the information society *Performance measures* (Number of member countries) 2010-2011: 5 Estimate 2012-2013: 8 Target 2014-2015: 10

(c) Enhanced capacities of member countries to ensure the coordination of their socioeconomic policies, fully achieve the potential for intraregional integration and build a harmonized policy framework for Internet governance and the legislation required	(c) (i) Increased number of member countries joining regional or global initiatives or frameworks related to Internet governance and/or cybersafety *Performance measures* (Number of member countries) 2010-2011: 3 Estimate 2012-2013: 5 Target 2014-2015: 7 (ii) Increased number of policymaking and legislative initiatives encouraging the use of cyberspace and e-commerce or e-services in the ESCWA region *Performance measures* (Number of initiatives) 2010-2011: 2 Estimate 2012-2013: 4 Target 2014-2015: 6

External factors

22.81 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) the political situation in the region is conducive to socioeconomic development; (b) that the security environment does not deteriorate; (c) member countries have the capacity and commitment to reorient their economic and social structures and policies; (d) national institutions will be willing to provide relevant and timely information; and (e) adequate extrabudgetary resources are made available to support additional activities as needed.

Outputs

22.82 During the biennium 2014-2015, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: parliamentary documentation: report on the ESCWA Technology Centre (1); report on the progress achieved in implementing the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society (1);

(ii) Ad hoc expert groups: on measuring the engine of knowledge-based economies in the Arab region (1); on progress on the implementation of the Arab regional road map for Internet governance (1); regional conference on the overall review of the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes and Beyond (Internet Governance Forum/Arab Internet Governance Forum) (1); seventh meeting of the Consultative Committee on Scientific and Technological Development and Technological Innovation (1);

(iii) Assistance to representatives and rapporteurs: assistance to the League of Arab States and its organization on ICT policies and strategies, Internet governance, Arabic domain names, digital Arabic content, and cyberlegislation (2);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: *Regional Profile of the Information Society in Western Asia, 2015* (1); *Review of Information and Communication Technologies and Development*, issues 21 and 22 (2);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications: policy recommendations on cybercrime and cybersecurity in the Arab region (1); transition to a knowledge-based economy in the Arab region (1);

(iii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts and information kits: brochure on information and communications technologies and development (1); leaflet and poster on the Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders in the Arab Region (1); leaflet on Internet governance (1); leaflet on the digital Arabic content initiative (1);

(iv) Technical material: establishment of a web page on exchanging information on the digital Arabic content (2); establishment of a web page on innovation and the knowledge-based economy (2); follow-up on the Arab regional road map for Internet governance (1); measurement of the ICT contribution to economic development (1); Newsletter on the Knowledge Society, issues 1, 2, 3 and 4 (4);

(v) Contribution to joint outputs: contribution of the Information and Communications Technology Division on selected issues of the working paper series of the Economic Development and Globalization Division (1); contribution to the publication of the ESCWA Centre for Women entitled *Empowering Women in the Knowledge Society in the Arab Region* (1);

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary): field projects on: ICT essentials for Government leaders in the Arab region (1); support to the ESCWA Technology Centre (1).

22.83 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 4 is reflected in table 22.20 below.

Table 22.20 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 4**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
Regular budget				
Post	4 383.0	4 244.4	17	16
Non-post	274.2	224.5	–	–
Subtotal	**4 657.2**	**4 468.9**	**17**	**16**
Extrabudgetary	254.4	188.3	–	–
Total	**4 911.6**	**4 657.2**	**17**	**16**

22.84 The amount of $4,244,400 under posts would provide for the 16 posts (1 D-1, 3 P-5, 3 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 P-2, 1 National Professional Officer, and 5 Local level) shown in table 22.20 above. The decrease of $138,600 relates to the abolishment of a Local level post of Staff Assistant in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 1, of the present report.

22.85 The non-post resources of $224,500 would provide for other personnel costs, consultants, expert group meetings and travel of staff. The decrease of $49,700 relates the reductions under general temporary assistance and consultants in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 2, of the present report.

22.86 Extrabudgetary resources estimated at $188,300 would complement the regular budget resources for: (a) the establishment of the ESCWA Technology Centre for Development to assist the member countries to: strengthen their capabilities to develop and manage national systems; develop, transfer, adapt and apply technology; determine the suitable technology for the region and facilitate its development and improve the legal and commercial framework for the transfer of technology; and enhance the technological and scientific knowledge content of major economic sectors in member countries; and (b) the project on promotion of the digital Arabic content industry aiming to promote the development and the growth of the industry in the ESCWA region. The projected decrease in extrabudgetary resources compared with the previous biennium is attributable to uncertainty of firmed commitments. Existing projects will be completed by 2014. Based on the efforts currently made by the subprogramme and the ESCWA Technology Centre and responses from member countries of ESCWA, it is expected that more extrabudgetary resources would be made available in the area that the subprogramme covers.

Subprogramme 5
Statistics for evidence-based policymaking

Resource requirement (before recosting): $3,984,900

22.87 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 5 is vested in the Statistics Division. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under subprogramme 5 of programme 19 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015.

Table 22.21 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To enhance the regional statistical system through statistical capacity development of member countries, in order to produce comparable, reliable, impartial and relevant national data for evidence-based policymaking and research

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Improved provision of statistical data about member countries through collection and dissemination of official statistics and indicators	(a) (i) Increased number of member countries that provide at least 60 per cent of core socioeconomic indicators *Performance measures* (Number of countries) 2010-2011: 10 Estimate 2012-2013: 12 Target 2014-2015: 13

	(ii) Increased number of database queries to online ESCWA statistical databases *Performance measures* (Number of queries registered by the database system and e-publications within a selected quarter of the biennium) 2010-2011: 200 Estimate 2012-2013: 300 Target 2014-2015: 350
(b) Improved national capacity for official statistics of member countries in line with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	(b) Increased number of member countries adopting new or revised international statistical standards, including the System of National Accounts, foundational socioeconomic classifications and compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics *Performance measures* (Number of countries) 2010-2011: 10 Estimate 2012-2013: 12 Target 2014-2015: 13
(c) Strengthened regional statistical system in support of regional integration, with an active coordination among major players, including regional and international organizations, and a more active participation by member countries	(c) (i) Increased number of joint statistical capacity-building activities that are coordinated with regional partners *Performance measures* (Number of activities) 2010-2011: 5 Estimate 2012-2013: 8 Target 2014-2015: 12 (ii) Increased number of tangible outputs of statistical coordination (harmonized databases, joint questionnaires, joint data products) produced in the region *Performance measures* (Number of outputs) 2010-2011: 2 Estimate 2012-2013: 4 Target 2014-2015: 8

External factors

22.88 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) there are no significant shortfalls in regular and extrabudgetary resources for statistical capacity-building; (b) the regional and international organizations active in official statistics in the region willingly cooperate with ESCWA; (c) the ESCWA Statistical Committee maintains its steering role in setting priorities and providing a strategic direction; and (d) there is a secure working environment, and political stability sufficient to facilitate a cooperative environment among member countries in the region and enable the effective implementation of technical cooperation.

Outputs

22.89 During the biennium 2014-2015, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: parliamentary documentation: report on the eleventh session of the Statistical Committee (1);

(ii) Statistical Committee:

a. Substantive servicing of the Bureau of the Statistical Committee (2); substantive servicing of the eleventh session of the Statistical Committee (4);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report on regional implication of global events (1);

(iii) Ad hoc expert group meeting on: national accounts and economic statistics (1); gender statistics (1); measuring multidimensional poverty using household survey microdata (1); price statistics for regional integration (1); trade statistics for regional integration (1); vital statistics and population registers (1);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: *Arab Society: compendium of demographic and social indicators* (1); *Bulletin on Industrial Statistics for the Arab Countries* (1); *Compendium of Environment Statistics in the Arab Region* (1); *Statistical Abstract of the Arab Region* (1); *e-Bulletin on gender in figures in the Arab region* (1); *e-Bulletin on external trade statistics of the Arab region* (1); *e-Bulletin on national accounts of the Arab countries* (1);

(ii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits: ESCWA country profiles (1); statistics newsletter (2);

(iii) Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings: meetings of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (2); meetings of the Task Force on Statistical Coordination of the Regional Coordination Mechanism (2);

(iv) Technical material: ESCWA applications on statistics, including the ESCWA Statistical Information System (ESIS), virtual library, best practices, standards and classification, meetings and documentation (2); maintenance and update of e-glossary on statistical terms (2); methodological issues in economic statistics (1); methodology of demographic and health statistics (1);

(v) Contribution to joint outputs: provision of expertise related to energy and environmental statistics and sustainable development indicators for publications and activities by other subprogrammes of ESCWA (1); provision of expertise related to gender statistics and

gender-sensitive indicators for publications and activities by other subprogrammes of ESCWA (1); provision of expertise related to social statistics and indicators for publications and activities by other subprogrammes of ESCWA (1); provision of statistical expertise and economic statistics data for the Arab Development Outlook and the Survey of Economic and Social Developments in the Arab Region (1);

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Advisory services: support in improving the production, analysis and dissemination of social and demographic, gender, economic, energy and environmental statistics (1);

(ii) Field projects: implementation of the global strategy for improving agriculture and rural development statistics (2014-2015) (1); improving census-taking in the Arab region (2014-2015) (1); International Comparison Programme (1); promoting the use of statistical information in support of progress towards internationally agreed development goals in the Arab region (1); strengthening the statistical capacity of member countries of ESCWA in energy statistics and energy balance (1); strengthening the statistical capacity of those countries in producing and disseminating short-term economic indicators for sustainable growth (1); strengthening the statistical capacity of ESCWA member countries in short-term economic statistics for evidence-based decision-making (1);

(d) Conference services, administration, oversight (regular budget): evaluations: discretionary self-assessment of subprogramme 5 (1).

22.90 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 5 is reflected in table 22.22 below.

Table 22.22 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 5**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
Regular budget				
Post	3 900.3	3 761.7	16	15
Non-post	243.9	223.2	–	–
Subtotal	**4 144.2**	**3 984.9**	**16**	**15**
Extrabudgetary	626.3	73.0	–	–
Total	**4 770.5**	**4 057.9**	**16**	**15**

22.91 The amount of $3,761,700 under posts provides for the 15 posts (1 D-1, 2 P-5, 2 P-4, 3 P-3, 1 P-2, 6 Local level) shown in table 22.22 above. The decrease of $138,600 relates to the abolishment of a Local level post of Statistical Assistant in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 1, of the present report.

22.92 The non-post resources of $223,200 would provide for other personnel-related costs, consultants, expert group meetings and travel of staff. The decrease of $20,700 under consultants and Ad Hoc Expert Group is in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 2, of the present report.

22.93 Extrabudgetary resources estimated at $73,000 would complement the regular budget resources in: (a) improving the production and dissemination of quality socioeconomic statistics and indicators, including Millennium Development Goals indicators and gender-disaggregated data, in order to

facilitate evidence-based policymaking by national and international decision makers and civil society through analysis of gender equality gaps in the Arab region project; (b) enhancing the capacity of member countries to produce and disseminate timely, accurate and comparable socioeconomic statistics and indicators to be used by national and international decision makers and civil society for evidence-based policymaking; and (c) carrying out the regional survey (part of the global UNFPA-led survey), the regional analysis and the production of the regional report for the 2013 regional population conference (June 2013). Based on the number of requests for technical advisory services in the biennium 2012-2013, it is expected that the interest by member States and donors, such as the World Bank, would continue into the biennium 2014-2015.

Subprogramme 6
Advancement of women

Resource requirement (before recosting): $2,940,200

22.94 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 6 is vested in the ESCWA Centre for Women. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under subprogramme 6 of programme 19 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015.

Table 22.23 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To reduce gender imbalances, encourage exchange of lessons learned among member countries and contribute to increased respect for the rights of women in line with international conventions and conferences

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries to adopt gender-sensitive policies, legislation and budgets in order to attain equal rights of women	(a) (i) Increased number of strategies, policies and programmes for the advancement of women, designed by national machineries for women, are adopted and implemented at the national level *Performance measures* (Number of initiatives) 2010-2011: 16 Estimate 2012-2013: 20 Target 2014-2015: 23 (ii) Increased number of national machineries for women showing improved reporting on periodical reports submitted to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

	Performance measures (Number of reports presented to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women with ESCWA technical support that are in line with the Committee's criteria) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 3 Target 2014-2015: 6
(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to combat gender-based violence through enactment of legislation and development of national action plans	(b) (i) Increased number of national strategies to combat gender-based violence *Performance measures* (Number of strategies to combat gender-based violence formulated with ESCWA assistance) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 0 Target 2014-2015: 3 (ii) Increased amount of legislation enacted to protect women from gender-based violence *Performance measures* (Amount of legislation enacted, with ESCWA support, to protect women from gender-based violence) 2010-2011: 1 Estimate 2012-2013: 2 Target 2014-2015: 5
(c) Enhanced capacity of member countries to adopt and implement participatory governance and national development policies based on the equal participation of individuals, men and women, with a particular focus on enhancing the position of women in democratic decision-making processes	(c) (i) Increased number of national action plans adopting a participatory approach, with special attention to the participation of women *Performance measures* (Number of national action plans that adopted a participatory approach as a result of ESCWA assistance)

2010-2011: 0

Estimate 2012-2013: 0

Target 2014-2015: 4

(ii) Increased number of civil society organizations dealing with the advancement of women that participate in public policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes

Performance measures

(Number of civil society organizations that participate in public policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation processes, with ESCWA support)

2010-2011: 0

Estimate 2012-2013: 0

Target 2014-2015: 5

External factors

22.95 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) there is political will for enhancing the role of national mechanisms and strengthening dialogue with civil society; (b) member countries take measures to align existing laws, regulations and practice with their commitments to international conventions and outcomes of international conferences on gender equality and the advancement of women; (c) the political situation in the region does not further deteriorate; and (d) current political changes in the region do not reverse acquired gains and lead to a deepening of the inequality gap.

Outputs

22.96 During the biennium 2014-2015, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia: parliamentary documentation: report to the Commission on the sixth session of the Committee on Women (1);

(ii) Committee on Women:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: substantive servicing of the seventh session of the Committee on Women (4);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report on progress achieved in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in the Arab region (1); report on thematic key development issues concerning the advancement of women in the Arab region (1);

(iii) Ad hoc expert groups meeting on: early marriage in the Arab region (1); national laws and international conventions in the Arab region (1); progress achieved in implementing the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in the Arab region (1); social and economic situation of women in conflict-stricken countries in the Arab region (1);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: Gender and Development Series: Early marriage in the Arab region (1); Report on the status of Arab women: national laws and international conventions in the Arab region (1);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications: Addressing gender-based violence in the Arab region: status and institutional frameworks (1); The social and economic situation of women in conflict-stricken areas in the Arab region (1); women and the knowledge society in the Arab region (1);

(iii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits: information kit for the seventh session of the Committee on Women (1); poster for the seventh session of the Committee on Women (1);

(iv) Special events: International Women's Day (2); launching of the report on the status of Arab women: national laws and international conventions (1);

(v) Technical material: ESCWA Centre for Women, *Gender Newsletter* (4); economic and social situation of Palestinian women (1);

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Advisory services: gender mainstreaming and follow-up to implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and international conventions and resolutions on gender equality and the empowerment of women (1);

(ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops: training workshop on the use of media to empower women in the Arab region (1); training workshop on women and the knowledge society in the Arab region (1);

(iii) Field projects: establishment of an observatory of women in the Arab region (1); institutional capacity-building for Arab parliaments and other stakeholders to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security (1);

(d) Conference services, administration, oversight (regular budget): discretionary self-assessment of subprogramme 6 (1).

22.97 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 6 is reflected in table 22.24 below.

Table 22.24 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 6**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
Regular budget				
Post	2 614.4	2 685.9	11	10
Non-post	232.0	254.3	–	–
Subtotal	**2 846.4**	**2 940.2**	**11**	**10**
Extrabudgetary	43.7	67.6	–	–
Total	**2 890.1**	**3 007.8**	**11**	**10**

22.98 The amount of $2,685,900 under posts would provide for 10 posts (1 D-1, 1 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 P-2 and 3 Local level) shown in table 22.24 above. The increase of $71,500 relates to the delayed impact of one new D-1 level post approved in the biennium 2012-2013, partially offset by the abolishment of a Local level post of Administrative Assistant in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 1, of the present report.

22.99 The non-post resources of $254,300 would provide for other personnel-related costs, consultants, expert group meetings and travel of staff. The increase of $22,300 reflects general temporary assistance required to partially offset the workload increase owing to abolishment of the Local level post proposed in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 2, of the present report.

22.100 Extrabudgetary resources estimated at $67,600 would complement the regular budget resources for the production of a recurrent publication, capacity-building through workshops on promoting gender equality through the use of information and communications technologies, and a training workshop on the use of media to empower women in the Arab region. The slight increase in extrabudgetary resources compared with the previous biennium is projected, owing mainly to ongoing collaboration with United Nations agencies, such as UN-Women, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Telecommunication Union.

Subprogramme 7
Conflict mitigation and development

Resource requirements (before recosting): $3,215,600

22.101 Substantive responsibility for subprogramme 7 is vested in the Emerging and Conflict-related Issues Division. The subprogramme will be implemented in accordance with the strategy detailed under subprogramme 7 of programme 19 of the biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015.

Table 22.25 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To mitigate the impact of conflict and its spillover effects on people and development in the ESCWA region through strengthening dialogue, peacebuilding, governance and public sector modernization

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Enhanced capacity of member countries affected by conflict to adopt and implement participatory and inclusive governance and national development policies	(a) (i) Increased number of national State-building initiatives and regulatory frameworks for enhancing national identity and strengthening resilience to conflict *Performance measures* (Number of national State-building initiatives and regulatory frameworks) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 2 Target 2014-2015: 3 (ii) Increased percentage of participants in forums organized under the subprogramme who acknowledge having benefited from ESCWA activities and recommendations *Performance measures* (Percentage) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 50 Target 2014-2015: 75 (iii) Increased number of member countries that seek and receive technical or substantive assistance under the subprogramme for enhancing national identity and citizenship *Performance measures* (Number of requests for technical or substantive assistance for enhancing national identity and citizenship) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 1 Target 2014-2015: 2

(b) Enhanced capacity of member countries to mitigate the negative impact of occupation, the ramifications of conflict and their spillover effects on human development in the region, particularly on Arab least developed countries	(b) (i) Increased percentage of Government representatives acknowledging that they have benefited from the analysis and policy recommendations contained in the publications under the subprogramme on conflict and its ramifications *Performance measures* (Percentage of Government representatives benefiting from the subprogramme's outputs) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 50 Target 2014-2015: 75 (ii) Increased number of policies and measures adopted by member countries to implement decisions made as part of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020 *Performance measures* (Number of policies or programmes adopted by member countries to implement the decisions of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 1 Target 2014-2015: 2 (iii) Increased percentage of participants in forums organized under the subprogramme who acknowledge having benefited from its activities and recommendations *Performance measures* (Percentage of participants in forums organized by the subprogramme) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 50 Target 2014-2015: 75

(c) Enhanced capacity of public institutions of member countries to create an enabling environment for development, pre-empting conflicts	(c) (i) Increased number of public institutions and civil society organizations applying nationally led and owned good governance practices for strengthening the institutional and organizational capacity of civil services for improved quality of public service delivery *Performance measures* (Number of public institutions and civil society organizations) 2010-2011: 5 Estimate 2012-2013: 10 Target 2014-2015: 15 (ii) Increased percentage of participants in forums organized under the subprogramme who acknowledge having benefited from the activities and recommendations *Performance measures* (Number of Government representatives benefiting from the subprogramme's outputs) 2010-2011: 0 Estimate 2012-2013: 50 Target 2014-2015: 75 (iii) Increased number of member countries that seek and receive technical or substantive assistance under the subprogramme for improving the quality of public service delivery *Performance measures* (Number of national entities approaching the subprogramme for technical/ substantive assistance) 2010-2011: 5 Estimate 2012-2013: 8 Target 2014-2015: 12

External factors

22.102 The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) there is no sudden drop in the subprogramme's funding; (b) the political environment enables national State-building and governance strategies in some member countries; and (c) there is no resistance from State institutions to participatory governance in planning and monitoring processes.

Outputs

22.103 During the biennium 2014-2015, the following final outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):

(i) Economic and Social Council: parliamentary documentation: report on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (2);

(ii) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: substantive servicing of the first session of a committee on emerging issues and development in conflict settings (1);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report on the Intergovernmental Committee on Emerging Issues and Development (1);

(iii) Ad hoc expert groups: *Arab Governance Report*: discussing findings and recommendations (1); challenges of reform during transition to democracy (1); international forum on development of Palestine (1); monitoring of governance progress (1);

(b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):

(i) Recurrent publications: *Arab Governance Report* (1); *Trends and Impacts* (issue 3): *Development under Occupation* (1);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications: Democratic transition and participation: prospects for a citizen-based State (1);

(iii) Booklets, fact sheets, wallcharts, information kits: booklet on the socioeconomic conditions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (1); fact sheet on the socioeconomic conditions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (1); wallchart on the impact of conflict on the socioeconomic development of the Palestinian people (2);

(iv) Special events: International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People (2); launching of the *Arab Governance Report* (1); launching of the report on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (2);

(v) Technical material: contribution to United Nations country team in conflict-affected countries and countries in transition (2); contribution to the United Nations public administration network website with ESCWA publications and training modules on governance (2); monthly political reviews: transition and conflict-affected countries (2); online dissemination strategy for the *Arab Governance Report* (1); working paper on monitoring the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (Istanbul, Turkey, May

2011) (1); working paper on multisectoral regional cooperation for socioeconomic development in Palestine (1); working paper on challenges of reform and transition to democracy (1);

(vi) Contribution to joint outputs: contribution to a subprogramme 6 expert group meeting on the social and economic situation of women in conflict-stricken areas in the Arab region (1); contribution to the subprogramme 6 non-recurrent publication "The Social and Economic Situation of Women in Conflict-Stricken Areas in the Arab Region" (1); contribution to the work of the Division for Public Administration and Development Management of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat on inclusive governance (2);

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary): field projects on assessing and monitoring progress on governance in the Arab region (1); civic values and life skills for adolescents in Palestine (1); contribution to the Iraq-Public Sector Modernization project — Phase II (1);

(d) Conference services, administration, oversight (RB): discretionary self-assessment of subprogramme 7 (1).

22.104 The distribution of resources for subprogramme 7 is reflected in table 22.26 below.

Table 22.26 **Resource requirements: subprogramme 7**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
Regular budget				
Post	2 683.5	2 930.9	11	10
Non-post	255.0	284.7	–	–
Subtotal	**2 938.5**	**3 215.6**	**11**	**10**
Extrabudgetary	2 243.6	4 771.4	–	–
Total	**5 182.1**	**7 987.0**	**11**	**10**

22.105 The amount of $2,930,900 under posts would provide for the 10 posts (1 D-1, 2 P-5, 2 P-4, 2 P-3, 1 P-2, 2 Local level) shown in table 22.26 above. The increase of $247,400 relates to the delayed impact of two new posts (D-1 and P-5) approved in the biennium 2012-2013, partially offset by the abolishment of a Local level post of Research Assistant in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 1, of the present report.

22.106 Non-post resources of $284,700 would provide for other personnel costs, consultants, expert group meetings and travel of staff. The net increase of $29,700 reflects requirements for general temporary assistance to partially complement the redistribution of the workload of the Local level post proposed for abolishment, in line with General Assembly resolution 67/248, as reflected in table 22.6, item 2, of the present report, consultants and travel.

22.107 Extrabudgetary resources estimated at $4,771,400 would complement the regular budget resources for: (a) providing support to Iraq in the field of capacity-building for Government and other stakeholders, State modernization and civic values; (b) mainstreaming civic values and life skills among youth in Libya, Yemen, Syria and Palestine; (c) production of the *Arab Governance Report*, which is intended to be a rigorous analytical study using a unique methodology to monitor and

assess progress on governance in Arab countries, and it aims at identifying capacity gaps in governance institutions, making recommendations and seeking to enhance the capacity of governance institutions; (d) assessing and monitoring progress on governance in the Arab region; and (e) the Public Sector Modernization project undertaken by ESCWA as part of the overall Public Sector Modernization initiative implemented by the Iraq United Nations Country Team and led by the United Nations Development Programme. The projected increase in extrabudgetary resources compared with the previous biennium is the result of the sustained donor interest in this area of work, which includes initiatives on promoting civic values and governance in the Arab region.

D. Programme support

Resource requirements (before recosting): $28,614,600

22.108 Programme support comprises the Administrative Services Division and the Strategic Planning and Monitoring and the Strategic Directions and Partnerships Sections.

Outputs

22.109 The Deputy Executive Secretary for Programme Support will be responsible for the following outputs: overall administration and management: advising the Executive Secretary on all administrative, management and organizational matters; provision of policy guidelines and coordination of the central common services; representation of the United Nations in negotiations with the host country on various issues relating to implementation of the headquarters agreement; provision of managerial oversight of the Staff Safety and Security Service at ESCWA, including Project Access Control Technology; oversight of the Technology Centre in Amman, as well as a new liaison office in North Africa; preparation of ESCWA reports on managerial, planning and administrative issues for the relevant intergovernmental bodies, as appropriate; participation in the defence of said reports before those intergovernmental bodies; provision of leadership to the development of change management programmes, including the transition to IPSAS and Umoja and the associated business processes; and provision of medical services.

22.110 The Administrative Services Division will be responsible for the following outputs:

(a) Human resources management: recruitment and placement; provision of staff administration and staff welfare services; training; career development and upgrading of substantive skills; facilitating mobility by promoting career prospects; staff-management relations; participating in the resolution of disputes and conflicts; provision of legal advice; and succession planning, in cooperation with programme managers, focusing on gender issues; meeting the Human Resources Scorecard targets to reduce the vacancy rate, increase recruitment from unrepresented and underrepresented member countries and improve the gender balance;

(b) Budgetary and financial services: management of the local IPSAS Team to effect a seamless transition to IPSAS; provision of guidance, coordination and support services to programme managers in the preparation of programme budget proposals and performance reports; overall control of utilization of programme budget and extrabudgetary resources; provision of accounting services and financial disbursements, including payroll, vendors and entitlements; coordination of the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS); testing and data clean-up in view of transition to IPSAS and Umoja; formulation of administrative responses and monitoring of follow-up to the reports of various oversight bodies, such as the Board of Auditors, the Joint Inspection Unit and the Office of Internal Oversight Services; review and analysis of proposals relating to extrabudgetary financing; preparation of memorandums of

understanding; and negotiation, monitoring and implementation of cost-sharing arrangements with the various United Nations agencies;

(c) Information and Communications Technology Section (previously known as Information Technology, Communications and Systems Section): provision of information technology services and infrastructure, including wide area network connectivity to Headquarters and the United Nations Global Support Bases (Brindisi and Valencia) and providing help desk support to all staff in the United Nations House; standardization of software and hardware; provision of in-house programming services to all substantive divisions in order to ensure compatibility with the existing technology, as well as to exercise a centralized control management system of the local area network; provision of videoconferencing; website hosting, design and development; satellite, radio and Internet Protocol (IP) Telephony communications support; facilitation of access to United Nations enterprise systems hosted at Headquarters and the United Nations Logistics Base (UNLB) in Brindisi, Italy;

(d) Central support services: administration of the implementation of the headquarters agreement between the United Nations and the host Government; United Nations comm n premises; facilities management and maintenance; provision of commercial and procurement services; provision of transportation, logistic and travel services; visas; liaison with Government officials of the host country; provision of postal services; maintenance of central registry and archives system; property control; and store and inventory management;

(e) Conference services: provision of conference services to the policymaking organs of ESCWA and other intergovernmental meetings held under its auspices, including the preparation and coordination of official meetings; provision of interpretation, verbatim reporting, translation and editorial services; provision of documentation and publication services; and provision of secretarial and technical support;

(f) Library services: provision of library services and information to staff, member States, United Nations libraries and depository libraries, and other clients, including the acquisition of publications and databases; indexing of ESCWA documents on the Official Documents System to make them available to Internet users; and development of library Internet and intranet web pages.

22.111 The outputs of the Strategic Planning and Monitoring and the Strategic Directions and Partnerships Sections, both of which are part of the Office of Programme Support, include the following:

(a) Planning, monitoring and evaluation: provision of guidance and support to the substantive divisions in the formulation of the biennial programme plan, the programme budget, including the regular budget, extrabudgetary technical cooperation proposals, taking into account the global requirements and the emerging regional development issues; articulating normative, analytical and operational outputs; preparing intergovernmental consultations; overseeing the implementation of the ESCWA evaluation policy; managing all mandatory and discretionary monitoring, evaluation and reporting; and acting as the secretariat of the Publications Committee and the Projects Committee;

(b) Programme coordination: provision of policy guidelines to the substantive offices with a view to: (i) ensuring the mainstreaming of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, into the ESCWA programme; (ii) promoting a multidisciplinary approach and fostering collaboration among divisions; (iii) improving the coherence between analytical, normative and operational activities; and coordination and liaison with the other Executive Committee for Economic and Social Affairs entities, and other United Nations and non-United Nations intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for joint programming, with the aim of understanding and reshaping, when

necessary, regional perspectives in pursuit of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and providing regional support to national capacity development in this regard; and (iv) providing guidance to achieve coherence between the regular programme of work of ESCWA and its growing technical cooperation programme funded from the regular programme of technical cooperation, the development account and extrabudgetary sources;

(c) Management of technical cooperation activities: provision of policy guidance and support to the substantive offices in the formulation, monitoring and evaluation of their technical cooperation programmes and projects, including projects funded from the development account; management of the regular programme of technical cooperation and the development account, and coordination with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in this respect; facilitation of networking and knowledge management on ESCWA technical cooperation; overseeing the delivery of advisory and capacity-building activities to member countries upon request; provision of proactive support to developing and broadening relationships with partners, donors and other stakeholders, including intergovernmental bodies, United Nations partner organizations, think tanks, research institutes, civil society organizations, and the private sector; implementation of the ESCWA resource mobilization strategy by enhancing donor relations and improving the ability to raise extrabudgetary resources in support of the regular programme of work; and enhancing engagement in high-level dialogue through the Regional Coordination Mechanism.

22.112 The distribution of resources for programme support is reflected in table 22.27 below.

Table 22.27 **Summary of resource requirements**

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015 (before recosting)*	*2012-2013*	*2014-2015*
Regular budget				
Post	21 802.8	21 405.8	116	111
Non-post	7 560.4	7 208.8	–	–
Total	**29 363.2**	**28 614.6**	**116**	**111**

22.113 The amount of $21,405,800 under posts provides for the 111 posts (1 D-2, 1 D-1, 5 P-5, 10 P-4, 11 P-3, 6 P-2, 74 Local level, 1 Field Service and 2 National Professional Officer) shown in table 22.27 above. The decrease of $397,000 relates to the abolishment of six Local level posts (1 Programme Assistant, 1 Computer Information Systems Assistant, 1 Inventory and Supply Assistant, 2 Mail Assistants and 1 Messenger) in line with the Secretary-General's report on the budget outline for 2014-2015. The reduction is partially offset by the proposed conversion from general temporary assistance to P-4, regular post, of the Medical Officer, who performs an ongoing function that responds to a continuous need, the reclassification of one D-1 post to D-2 level as well as the reclassification of one Local level post to National Professional Officer post. Both increases and decreases are reflected in table 22.7 of the present report.

22.114 To address the long-outstanding issue of a flat top management structure of ESCWA where a relatively high number of D-1 and P-5 staff report directly to one Under-Secretary-General, ESCWA is proposing to establish an Office of Programme Support, headed by a Deputy Executive Secretary for Programme Support, at the D-2 level, by reclassifying the existing D-1 post, Director of the Planning, Partnerships and Technical Cooperation Division. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary would be supported by two D-2 posts.

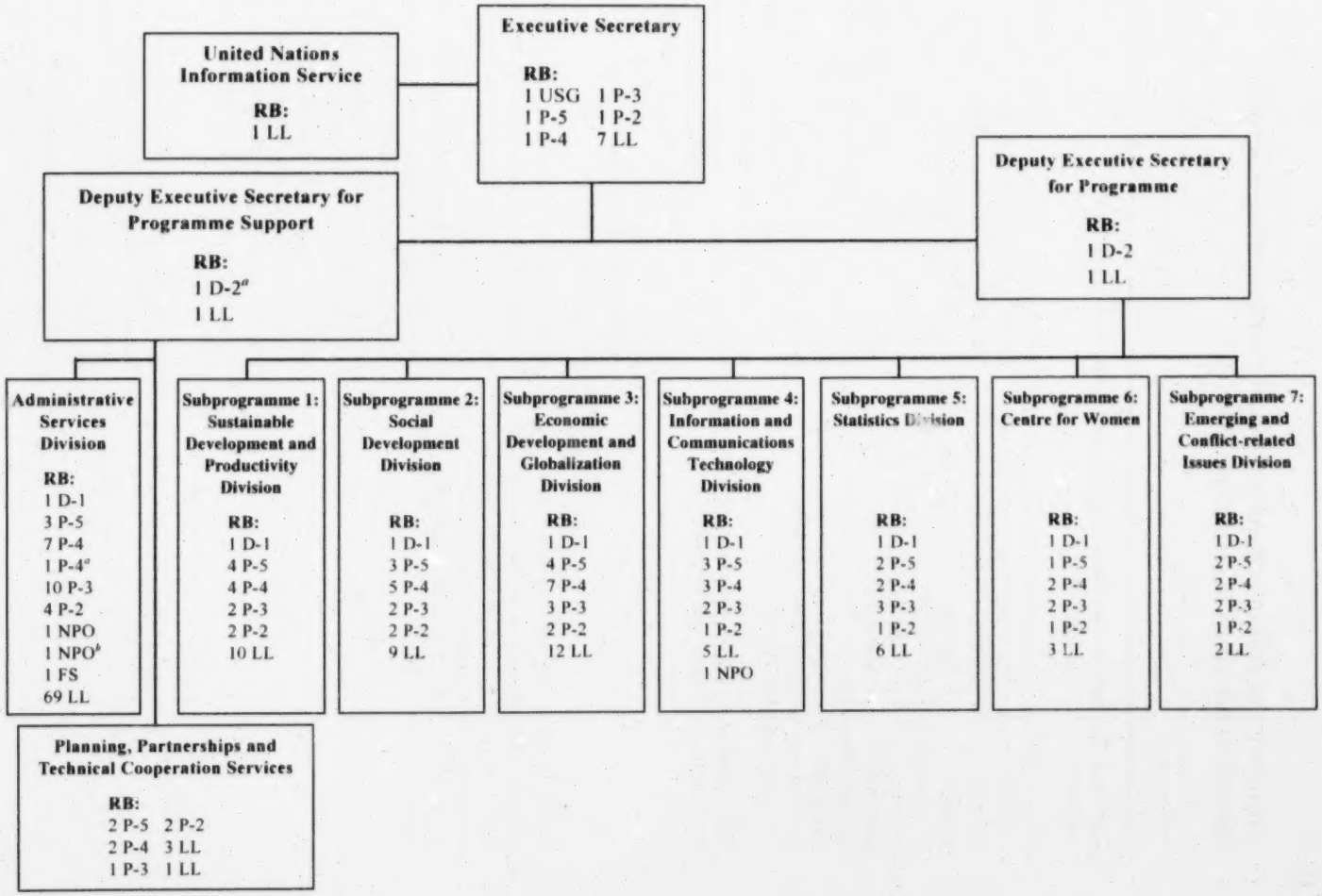
(a) The existing Deputy Executive Secretary, in the Office of the Executive Secretary, will be assigned the role of coordinating the programme of work of seven substantive divisions, releasing the Executive Secretary's office from day-to-day managerial, administrative and logistical support, and will focus on a purely high-level political and representational role;

(b) The new Deputy Executive Secretary for Programme Support will be supervising Administrative Services, the Strategic Planning and Monitoring and the Strategic Directions and Partnerships Sections, and Staff Safety and Security, and will oversee the ESCWA Technology Centre in Amman as well as a new liaison office that ESCWA envisages to establish in the course of 2014-2015 in North Africa, in view of the increase in membership from that region. He/she will also enhance engagement in high-level dialogue with the subregional organizations and national government authorities through the Regional Coordination Mechanism, ensure proper representation at the regional level, and enhance the Commission's outreach to civil society and other non-governmental partners in the region.

22.115 Non-post resources of $7,208,800 would provide for: (a) other personnel-related costs; (b) consultants to provide for specialized legal expertise and for strengthening monitoring and evaluation systems; (c) travel of staff; and (d) operational expenses. The decrease of $351,600 reflects the net effect of: lower provision for operational expenses such as furniture and equipment, maintenance of furniture and equipment, rental of premises and utilities and increase in general temporary assistance in line with the Secretary-General's report on the budget outline for 2014-2015, as reflected in table 22.7 of the present report.

Annex I

Organizational structure and post distribution for the biennium 2014-2015



[a] Conversion of P-4 from general temporary assistance.
[b] Reclassification.

Annex II

Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of oversight bodies

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/66/7 and Corr.1, chap. II)	
The Committee has expressed its concerns with regard to the persistent high vacancy rates in a number of offices. The Committee has also reiterated its view that the continuing need for long-vacant posts should be reviewed on an ongoing basis and, in particular, before proposals for new posts are put forward to the General Assembly. The Committee remains concerned at the continuing high vacancy rates for Professional posts at the regional commissions (para. V.8).	ESCWA has introduced a tracking tool which allows for monitoring the progress of recruitment cases at all stages of Inspira, thereby enabling identification of where delays frequently occur and recommendations for solutions and increased responsibility for all players responsible for the recruitment process. Furthermore, a dashboard is being piloted at ESCWA to track performance with respect to the filling of posts. Notwithstanding the security situation in Lebanon, data shows an improvement in filling vacancies. As of December 2012, in the area of recruitment it is notable that, although ESCWA achieved a performance of 99 days for the selection process, falling short of the 92-day target, that result represents continuous improvement from the previous years.
The Committee expects that the vacant posts will be filled expeditiously (para. V.90).	
Given the importance of extrabudgetary resources in complementing the financing of activities by the regular budget, the Committee encourages the regional commissions to intensify their efforts to raise extrabudgetary resources (para. V.18).	Recognizing the importance of extrabudgetary resources in complementing regular budget activities, the Strategic Directions and Partnerships Section will be responsible for finalizing and implementing a resource mobilization strategy by enhancing donor relations and improving the organization's effectiveness in raising extrabudgetary resources. An action plan will lay out a systematic approach to fundraising and donor relations. A key success indicator will be its effectiveness in establishing an expanded donor base to support ESCWA programmes and projects. It should be noted that ESCWA has been successful in raising the interest of a wide range of donors and partners in its technical cooperation work. It has received pledges from donors in the region, including the Government of Saudi Arabia, as well as other bilateral donors and multilateral donors. As a result of

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
	the above, extrabudgetary resources for 2012-2013 are expected to exceed those raised in 2010-2011.
The Committee notes the initiative taken towards the efficient and effective management of the programme, resulting in the restructuring exercise. The Committee expects the management of the Commission to remain focused on the expeditious implementation of the restructuring exercise and to report on the efficiencies achieved in the context of the relevant performance report. The Committee, however, maintains the view that the monitoring and evaluation of the ESCWA programme of work should not require consultants, but rather, it should be undertaken by management on a regular basis (para. V.93).	Monitoring and evaluation in ESCWA is performed internally by staff members of the Strategic Planning and Monitoring Section, which is part of the Planning, Partnerships and Technical Cooperation Services. Staff members from the Section regularly monitor the implementation of the work programme by checking the status of programmed outputs. Monthly deliverables reports are prepared to capture this information in an easy-to-read report. Internal programme performance assessment is performed biannually in the form of programme performance reporting, an Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) requirement, and monitoring is performed regularly. That is prepared by the substantive divisions against their expected accomplishments using their preset indicators of achievement. It is reported on in the Integrated Monitoring and Documentation Information System (IMDIS). The services of external consultants are contracted only in instances where there is a need for specialized independent experts. This is limited to external evaluations conducted to assess the performance of the different subprogrammes, development account projects and extrabudgetary projects with a budget exceeding $250,000, while the evaluation of other aspects of the programme of work is managed internally.
The Advisory Committee welcomes the efforts made to address the challenges faced by women in the region and emphasizes the importance of close cooperation with UN-Women to avoid any duplication (para. V.96).	ESCWA has been working closely with UN-Women to address challenges facing the empowerment of women and gender equality in the Arab region. In this context, ESCWA and UN-Women are jointly producing a flagship publication on "Policies to Empower Women in the Arab Region: Combating Gender-based Violence (GBV)". The study aims to contribute to the evidence base for continued work on gender-based violence by examining the

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
	specific scope of certain types and areas of violence within the domestic sphere, as well as the legal system that falls under these categories of violence. Together with insights gained from global research and evaluations, the study is expected to generate policy recommendations to member States to scale up their commitment to combat gender-based violence in order to promote gender equality in the Arab region. During the biennium 2014-2015, ESCWA will continue to work closely with UN-Women by developing a partnership to hold two workshops on "Capacity-building for addressing gaps and challenges in the area of service provision to survivors of violence" and "The use of media to empower women in the Arab region". Furthermore, in 2014 ESCWA will hold a consultative meeting with the UN-Women Regional Office for Arab Countries to identify common areas for close cooperation and partnership in order to avoid any duplication.

Annex III

Outputs included in the biennium 2012-2013 not to be delivered in 2014-2015

A/66/6 (Sect. 22), paragraph	*Output*	*Quantity*	*Reason for discontinuation*
Executive direction and management			
22.36 (b) (iv)	ESCWA Weekly News	2	Electronic Daily News and other communication services will provide the information
22.36 (b) (iv)	Information kit for the ESCWA ministerial session	1	The information will be provided through other existing channels and information services
22.36 (b) (viii)	Production of television spots and/or documentaries for distribution to the media throughout the region	2	ESCWA will use various online media to substitute the outputs
22.36 (b) (i)	ESCWA working paper series	1	The ESCWA working paper series will be replaced in the biennium 2014-2015 with the *Arab Development Journal*
22.36 (b) (i)	ESCWA working paper series	1	The ESCWA working paper series will be replaced in the biennium 2014-2015 with the *Arab Development Journal*
Subtotal, Executive direction and management		**7**	
Subprogramme 1. Integrated management of natural resources for sustainable development			
22.41 (b) (iii)	Promotional material for the World Day to Combat Desertification	2	Owing to emerging issues on the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and post-2015, the topic of desertification will no longer be considered as a priority for the Division
22.41 (b) (iii)	Promotional material for the celebration of the Arab Energy Efficiency Day	2	Celebration of the Arab Energy Efficiency Day was undertaken only to support the League of Arab States in its initial year of launching; further work will be undertaken, but within the scope of the activity on "Support to the Arab Ministerial Council for Electricity and Technical Committees on Electricity and Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency"

A/66/6 (Sect. 22), paragraph	*Output*	*Quantity*	*Reason for discontinuation*
22.41 (b) (v)	Substantive contribution to the twentieth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the thematic issues of the Commission	1	Support to the high-level Political Forum will replace this output, since the Commission on Sustainable Development will cease to exist
22.41 (b) (v)	Substantive support to the High-level Committee on Programmes of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB)	2	Support to high-level committees will be limited to supporting the high-level Political Forum replacing the Commission on Sustainable Development and United Nations Regional Coordination Mechanism meetings
22.41 (b) (iv)	Development and maintenance of the ESCWA home page on water, environment, energy issues, agriculture and enterprise development	2	The maintenance and updating of the ESCWA home page will be centrally managed by the ESCWA webmaster
22.41 (c) (ii)	Capacity-building on climate change mitigation for poverty alleviation in Western Asia (development account)	1	Project cycle ends by December 2013
22.41 (c) (ii)	Promoting the application of energy efficiency measures in selected ESCWA countries	1	No funds were secured in 2012-2013 to undertake proposed activities for this project
22.41 (c) (ii)	Support to ESCWA member countries in the field of water resources management	1	Project cycle ends by June 2013
Subtotal, subprogramme 1		**12**	
Subprogramme 3. Economic development and integration			
22.53 (a) (i)	Report on policy options on key macroeconomic issues	1	The content of this document will be included in the surveys and other recurrent publications of the subprogramme
22.53 (a) (iv)	Follow-up report on the implementation of the United Nations international transport conventions concluded within ESCWA	1	It will be replaced by three specialized reports that each will deal with one of the three agreements covered in this output
22.53 (a) (v)	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the outcome of the Doha International Conference by ESCWA member countries and preparing member countries for the 2013 United Nations International Conference on Financing for Development	1	The new publication on Arab development finance is planned to cover the same areas as this publication, in addition to other financing for development issues

A/66/6 (Sect. 22), paragraph	Output	Quantity	Reason for discontinuation
22.53 (b) (i)	Progress report on the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development	1	This publication, along with a non-recurrent publication on financing for development, will be merged into a single publication entitled *Arab Development Finance*
22.53 (b) (i)	Regional Millennium Development Goals report (2013)	1	Starting in 2014, the Millennium Development Goal publication will be replaced by a new publication entitled *Arab Development Outlook*, which will cover most of the Millennium Development Goals but will provide a wider political economy narrative
22.53 (b) (v)	Maintenance and updating of the ESCWA home page on economic development and globalization	2	The maintenance and updating of the ESCWA home page will be centrally managed by the ESCWA webmaster
Subtotal, subprogramme 3		**7**	
Subprogramme 4. Information and communications technology for regional integration			
22.59 (b) (iv)	Development and refinement of Arabic terminology in the field of ICT	2	This output will be implemented as part of other publications
22.59 (b) (iv)	Information society portal update and maintenance	2	The update and maintenance of the information society portal will be part of other activities of the subprogramme
22.59 (b) (iii)	Leaflet on the information society portal for the ESCWA Region	1	No major changes will be incorporated on the portal, therefore there is no need for a leaflet
22.59 (b) (iv)	Maintenance of the ESCWA home page on information and communications technology	2	The maintenance and updating of the ESCWA home page will be centrally managed by the ESCWA webmaster
22.59 (b) (iv)	National profiles of the information society in Western Asia 2013	1	This activity was undertaken for the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society, and by 2013 the follow-up process will be completed
22.59 (b) (i)	Review of Information and Communication Technologies and Development, issue 19	1	Will be replaced by Newsletter in ICT
22.59 (b) (i)	Review of Information and Communication Technologies and Development, issue 20	1	Will be replaced by Newsletter in ICT
Subtotal, subprogramme 4		**10**	

A/66/6 (Sect. 22), paragraph	Output	Quantity	Reason for discontinuation
Subprogramme 5. Statistics for evidence-based policymaking			
22.65 (b) (iv)	Maintenance and update of the ESCWA Statistical Information System (ESIS) and online data sets	2	These outputs will be combined with "Maintenance and update of ESCWA applications on statistics (including ESIS, virtual library, best practices, standards and classification, meetings and documentation)"
22.65 (a) (iii)	Working group of the Statistical Committee	2	The Working Group will not be a fully fledged expert group meeting but as back to back with the ESCWA Statistical Committee or Statistical Commission
22.65 (b) (i)	*Bulletin on Population and Vital Statistics*	2	As a result of the need to reconsider changing priorities and the overall structure of the publication, the Statistics Division decided to embed its most important tables into the *Compendium of Social Statistics and Indicators: Arab Society*
Subtotal, subprogramme 5		**6**	
Subprogramme 7. Conflict mitigation and development			
22.78 (b) (iii)	Information kit on conflict mitigation and development	1	As a result of a prioritization exercise, it was decided that limited resources would be allocated to other activities
22.78 (b) (v)	Maintenance and updating of the conflict mitigation and development website	2	The maintenance and updating of the ESCWA home page will be centrally managed by the ESCWA webmaster
22.78 (a) (ii)	Report on the impact of conflict or political crisis on the socioeconomic development in the ESCWA region	1	The topics covered by this report are already covered in other publications of subprogramme 7, which are widely distributed
Subtotal, subprogramme 7		**4**	
Total		**46**	